

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIX.]

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### BIRTHS.

On the 25th March, at the London Mission, Weichen, the wife of the Rev. A. H. BRIDGE, of a son (ALBERT LI NEL).

On the 31st March, at Tientsin, the wife of A. H. WATTS, Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., of a son.

On the 1st April, to the Rev. G. W. and Mrs. SHEPPARD, at the Methodist Mission Compound, Ningpo, a son.

On the 4th April, at No. 128, Range Road, Shanghai, the wife of G. GUNDRY, of a daughter.

On the 7th April, at Gimel, Switzerland, the wife of PERCY E. WALSHAM, Chinese Customs Service, of a son.

On the 12th April, at Swatow, the wife of ARTHUR MAGGOWAN, of a daughter.

### DEATHS.

On the 31st March, at Tientsin, HAROLD VON MYEREN.

On the 2nd April, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, JOHN MOSSOP, eldest son of JOHN MOSSOP, West End Lane, Hampstead, and eldest grandson of the late ROBERT MOSSOP, of Long-Sutton, Lincolnshire, aged 46 years.

On the 16th April, on board the *Hygiea*, WILLIAM FRANK RAMSEY, manager of Kowloon Gas Works, aged 32 years.

## Hongkong Weekly Press

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### ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The French Mail of the 18th March arrived, per the s.s. *Polynesian*, to-day. The English Mail of the 25th ultimo is expected to arrive, per the s.s. *Chusan*, on Friday the 23rd inst.

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Sir Matthew Nathan, our Governor-designate, reached Liverpool from West Africa on the 19th ult.

The Consul-General for Japan has forwarded £11,000, the first instalment of the London fund for Japanese Widows and Orphans.

Vice-Admiral Skrydloff, commanding the Black Sea fleet, has been appointed to succeed the late Admiral Makaroff in the Far East.

Washington news states the Russian Government has given notice that newspaper correspondents using wireless telegraphy will be treated as spies and shot. This requires confirmation.

According to *L'Echo de Chine*, it is announced from S. Petersburg that King Edward has the intention of intervening after the war to regulate the difficulties actually existing between Russia and England.

Sunday was the ninth anniversary of the signature of the treaty of Shimonoseki between Japan and China. The upsetting of that treaty, in favour mainly of Russia, led more than anything else to the present war.

We received on the 14th inst. from the Colonial Secretary's Office the following message:—"It is understood that according to present arrangements Sir Matthew Nathan starts from England for Hongkong in July next."

We see that, owing to the indisposition of Mr. E. H. Cox, Mr. Cowen has resumed the editorship of the *China Times*. He has not been deported yet! In fact, he appears to have emerged successfully from his struggle with the authorities.

A Canton correspondent of a Saigon contemporary states that Viceroy Shun has been endeavouring to negotiate among the European houses a loan of \$200,000 to meet the expenses of military operations against pirates in Kwangsi.

It is reported that the prolonged arbitration before Sir Hiram Wilkinson at Shanghai in regard to the recent collision at Woosung between the P. & O. S. *Ballarat* and the C.N.S. *Changon* came to a conclusion last week, but the decision has not yet been rendered.

The London *Morning Post's* Chefoo correspondent wires that an increase of anti-foreign policy is permeating to Peking, and that there is a grave possibility of China's neutrality being broken soon, in spite of official assurances to the contrary, by a general upheaval of the people.

The Tsar and Tsarita of Russia, according to Reuter, attended the Admiralty Church, S. Petersburg, at a Memorial Service after the Port Arthur disaster. The Tsarita wept throughout the service. S. Petersburg is a city of mourning, amusements are cancelled, and cafés closed.

A statement that General Gallieni, the Governor-General of Madagascar, would shortly replace M. Beau as Governor-General of Indo-China, is now declared to be unfounded. M. Beau, who was to have come to France on leave during the summer, has decided to remain at his post in consequence of the situation in the Far East.

The Naval reserves at Sebastopol have been mobilized partly to reinforce the crews at Port Arthur and Vladivostok and partly for the Baltic Fleet.

Reuter's correspondent at S. Petersburg wires that General Kuropatkin has decided to make Fenghangcheng the first line of defence proper, although he intends engaging the Japanese as soon as they cross the Yalu. A strong force is entrenched at Haiching to block the Japanese advance if they land at the head of the Liaotung Gulf.

The official text of the Anglo-French agreement, in reference to Siam, says that the two parties, disclaiming all ideas of annexation of territory and being resolved to abstain from anything opposed to existing treaties, agree that their action shall be exercised freely in the spheres of influence East and West of the Menam basin respectively.

The Customs Report on the foreign trade of China for 1903, notes under the heading of Revenue that of the Southern ports those in Fokien about held their own, and Kwangtung ports—especially Canton—had an improved collection, with the exception of Pakhoi, which continues to lose ground. The report also notes a transference of trade from junk to steamer at Canton. To the total collection Shanghai and the north generally contributed reduced amounts, and the Yangtze and Southern ports generally larger amounts.

The Chinese Boards of Revenue, War, and Commerce are drawing up a joint memorial to the Throne recommending the abolition of the old Courier Post Department and the handing over of the transmission of all Government and official despatches throughout the Empire to the Chinese Imperial Post established by Sir Robert Hart. The funds hitherto paid out for the support of the old Courier Post are recommended by the memorialists to be handed over to Sir Robert Hart for the extension of the new Postal Department in order to meet the requirements of the case.

It will be recalled by many that the late Admiral Makaroff's name was very prominently before the world eight or ten years ago as the inventor of a method of minimising the effects of collisions at sea. On the 22nd of January, 1896, the Admiral explained his scheme before the members of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce. Mr. A. McConachie, who presided on the occasion, mentioned, in introducing Admiral Makaroff, that His Excellency had occupied himself in the study of similar schemes since he was a young lieutenant, and in the Seventies one of his inventions—"a collision-mat"—was exhibited at an exhibition in Vienna, and received such general attention and approval as to lead to its adoption by most European navies. His suggestions for the improvement of bulkheads also favourably impressed naval constructors, and the distinction his ideas on these subjects gained for him was recognised by his own Government and rapid promotion followed. The Admiral's lecture in Hongkong in which he suggested a "false nose" for ships, and a law to compel its general adoption, attracted a deal of attention in shipping circles throughout the world, but the scheme had its defects and still remains in the realm of suggestions. The Deceased was here some six or seven years ago and made himself very popular. His death is much regretted by all who met him.



## THE JAPANESE WHITE-BOOK.

(Daily Press, 11th April.)

By the courtesy of the Japanese Consul we have received a copy of the Japanese official Correspondence regarding the negotiations between Japan and Russia (1903-1904). The document is a translation and is presented very much in the form of British Blue-books. Fifty-one telegraphic despatches in all are given, and all are either addressed by Baron KOMURA at Tokyo to Mr. KURINO, Japanese Minister at S. Petersburg, or vice-versa. They contain, however, the text of all the Japanese proposals and the Russian counter-proposals. From a perusal of them the series of delays which ultimately caused Japan to "reserve the right to take independent action" can be clearly traced. It was on the 28th July last that Baron KOMURA's long telegram, which forms the first item in the Correspondence, was sent from Tokyo, setting forth Japan's grave concern at the development of affairs in Manchuria and at Russia's increased activity along the Korean frontier. Mr. KURINO was instructed to hand Count LAMSDORFF a Note Verbale, in which was expressed the Japanese Government's wish to enter with the Russian Government upon examination of the condition of affairs, with a view to a definition of the respective special interest of Japan and Russia in the Extreme East. Mr. KURINO was further instructed to make Count LAMSDORFF understand that Japan attached great importance to the subject. The Japanese Minister carried out his instructions on the 31st July. Count LAMSDORFF said that he was in perfect accord with the view of the Japanese Government that an understanding was desirable, but he wished to see the Tsar before a definite answer was given. On the 3rd August Baron KOMURA telegraphed Japanese's proposed basis of an understanding, the main points of which were a mutual engagement to respect the independence and territorial integrity of China and Korea and a reciprocal recognition of Japan's preponderating interests in Korea and Russia's special railway interests in Manchuria. On the 5th August Count LAMSDORFF stated that he was authorised by the Tsar to open negotiations with Mr. KURINO on the subject of the Note Verbale. On the 12th of the same month Mr. KURINO telegraphed that Count LAMSDORFF, being very much occupied, could not receive him till that day, when he handed to him Japan's proposals, in accordance with his instructions. Count LAMSDORFF said that he would "examine the project with care," and it was not till the 23rd August that he received Mr. KURINO next. Then he said that he "had studied the project seriously, but that, the Emperor having been absent over a week on account of the manoeuvres, he had been unable to take any steps in the matter." He also asked Mr. KURINO's opinion about transferring negotiations to Tokyo, "as there were many details which would have to be referred to Admiral ALEXIEFF"—to whom he had already sent a copy of the Japanese project, he mentioned. Baron KOMURA telegraphed on the 26th August that Japan would prefer to continue negotiations in S. Petersburg, believing that the work would be greatly facilitated thereby; and he pressed for a reply to the proposals. Next day Mr. KURINO saw Count LAMSDORFF, who told him that the Tsar had expressed his wish for a transference of negotiations to Tokyo, "so as to expedite matters"; he added that the Tsar was leaving S. Petersburg for foreign countries next week and that the Ministers concerned

would also be absent from S. Petersburg. In spite of Mr. KURINO's objection, Count LAMSDORFF insisted upon his proposition, and so Mr. KURINO telegraphed to Tokyo that he thought it hardly possible to change the course proposed by Russia. Baron KOMURA replied, by telegram, that Japan still thought that negotiation would be facilitated if continued in S. Petersburg, since principles, not details, were concerned. On the 31st August, Count LAMSDORFF, having had this communicated to him, replied that "principles must be decided upon examination of local and practical questions" and continued to press for the transference to Tokyo. He said that he would be long absent from S. Petersburg during the autumn, in attendance upon the Tsar. In case of negotiations at Tokyo he could direct them by telegraph, wherever he went; at S. Petersburg he would be obliged to attend to the matter personally with Mr. KURINO. On the 2nd September Baron KOMURA telegraphed that the Japanese Government feared that discussion would be greatly protracted if negotiations were at this stage to be transferred to Tokyo without some accepted basis for negotiations, and he asked that the Russian Government should announce whether the Japanese proposals could in principle be accepted as that basis. Mr. KURINO saw Count LAMSDORFF again on the 5th September, when Mr. KURINO urged him as instructed, and "a rather prolonged discussion" followed. Count LAMSDORFF explained that Baron ROSEN had been already commanded to prepare and elaborate counter-proposals in consultation with Admiral ALEXIEFF, and, if the Japanese Government were willing to enter into negotiation, to commence immediately the *pourparlers*, adopting the Japanese proposals and Russian counter-proposals as basis of negotiations. In Mr. KURINO's telegram in which he described the interview, he made it plain that he thought Japan must give way in the matter of the transference to Tokyo. Accordingly on the 9th September Japan consented to the transfer. Count LAMSDORFF was informed the same day, when he said that Baron ROSEN and Admiral ALEXIEFF had already been instructed to prepare counter-proposals as soon as possible. On the 22nd September Baron ROSEN left Tokyo for Port Arthur; it will be remembered that a slight sensation was caused by this fact at the time, no one outside Government circles knowing the reason. He returned on the 3rd October bringing Russia's counter-proposals to Japan's proposals of the 3rd August.

The main lines of these proposals, which were stated to be sanctioned by the Tsar, were the mutual engagement to respect the independence and territorial integrity of Korea (only), while instituting a neutral zone in Korea north of the 39th parallel, and the recognition by Japan of Manchuria and its littoral as in all respects outside her sphere of influence. Japan began discussion, taking the two sets of proposals as the basis, but immediately presented amendments to Russia's suggestions, reintroducing the matter of China's sovereignty and territorial integrity in Manchuria and extending the neutral zone on both sides of the Korean-Manchurian frontier. Russia accepted the latter proposal *ad referendum*, but refused to entertain the other. On the 30th October Baron KOMURA presented to the Russian Minister at Tokyo Japan's definite amendments to Russia's counter-proposals, which were really only a restatement in more regular form of the first amendments. Next day Baron ROSEN called and stated that the amendments were beyond his instructions,

and that he would telegraph them to his Government. Baron KOMURA, informing Mr. KURINO of this, asked him to explain that Japan could not understand the reason for excluding China from the engagement, as Russia proposed. On the 2nd November the Japanese Minister saw Count LAMSDORFF's deputy, who started by saying that, in his personal opinion, Japan was making the same demands as before, and that they were too great; he added that the Count would return to S. Petersburg at the end of the week. On the 12th of the month Count LAMSDORFF himself received Mr. KURINO, whom he told that Baron ROSEN had been ordered by the Tsar to examine Japan's last proposal with Admiral ALEXIEFF and make modification if necessary. He also told him that Russia's objection related rather to the form than to the substance of Japan's proposal, whereon Mr. KURINO reasonably replied that it was deeply to be regretted if an understanding could not be reached merely because of the failure to find a suitable formula to bring the Russian and Japanese Governments to an arrangement. On the 20th November Baron ROSEN informed Baron KOMURA that Admiral ALEXIEFF had already forwarded the counter-proposals to S. Petersburg, but that he (Baron ROSEN) had not yet received any instructions on the subject. Mr. KURINO was told to represent Japan's anxiety for "all possible expedition." Unhappily the Tsarina's ear became inflamed at this juncture, and the Tsar, though he had in his hands the modifications proposed by Admiral ALEXIEFF, could not attend to any business. Count LAMSDORFF was to have had audience of the Tsar on the 25th November, but the Tsarina's sickness continued, and when he received Mr. KURINO on the 3rd December he was still without that audience. Indeed he explained that "Saturday was the *fete* of the Crown Prince, no business is transacted on Sunday, and he would be occupied with other affairs on Monday." He expected the audience on Tuesday, and promised to let the Japanese Minister know the result the next day. We find nothing about this audience in the Correspondence, but Mr. KURINO wrote on the 9th December that he had been told that day by Count LAMSDORFF that an Imperial order had been sent to Admiral ALEXIEFF and Baron ROSEN to continue negotiations in accordance with the counter-proposals of the Admiral; Russia's propositions would be officially communicated in two or three days. On the 11th December, accordingly, Baron ROSEN called on Baron KOMURA and presented Russia's new counter-proposals to Japan's definitive amendments of the 30th October. Practically Russia made no change of attitude, still leaving China out of the agreement (the word "Manchuria" was not even mentioned) and fixing a neutral zone in Korea alone. Baron KOMURA patiently replied, on the 26th December, that he hoped the Russian Government would reconsider its position with regard to the inclusion in the proposed understanding of all regions in the Extreme East where the interests of the Empires met; and he sent to Mr. KURINO a Note Verbale to hand to Count LAMSDORFF, amending Russia's latest proposals, but not in entering any specific statement about China or Manchuria. On the 23rd December the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs said that he would do his best to send the Russian answer at the earliest possible date; and, on the 1st January, that Baron ROSEN would soon be instructed to proceed with the negotiations in a friendly and conciliatory spirit. On the 6th Russia's reply was handed in a



Tokyo. This rejected Japan's amendments, and stated that Russia was prepared to include in the agreement an article of the following tenor:—"Recognition by Japan of Manchuria and her littoral as being outside her sphere of interests, while Russia, within the limits of that province, will not impede Japan nor other Powers in the enjoyment of rights and privileges acquired by them under existing treaties with China, exclusive of the establishment of settlements." In a week's time Japan answered by proposing such modifications as to restate almost her original demands, bringing back in particular "the integrity of China in Manchuria." On the 23rd January Mr. KURINO was instructed to sound Count LAMSDORFF on the probable nature of Russia's reply, and this he did next day, when the Count was "not inclined to enter into details," "expected to lay his views before the Emperor on the 26th," and "hoped to be able to send an answer before long." On the 26th Baron KOMURA telegraphed protesting against a further prolongation of the present state of things as calculated to accentuate the gravity of the situation. Count LAMSDORFF then told Mr. KURINO that Admiral ALEXIEFF's opinion would soon be received by telegraph; and meanwhile he complained that, according to reports from official sources, Japan had sent a considerable number of troops, munitions, and war materials to Corea, an action which had caused "a very bad impression." Baron KOMURA immediately telegraphed to his Minister at S. Petersburg, denying the allegation and asking whether the report of Russian concentration on the Korean frontier was true. The same day (the 28th January) Count LAMSDORFF said that he did not believe the report in question was true, and remarked that "such newspaper reports are very regrettable." Japan's patience was now nearly at an end. On the 30th January Baron KOMURA instructed Mr. KURINO to state that the Japanese Government "wished to know whether they would be honoured with the reply" [of Russia] "at the date mentioned by Count LAMSDORFF, namely, next Tuesday" [the 2nd February], "or if it were not possible, what would be the exact date on which the reply would be given." Count LAMSDORFF was "desirous to send an answer as quickly as possible; but the question was a very serious one and was not to be lightly dealt with." It "was not possible to him to give the exact date, as it entirely depended upon the decision of the Emperor." Japan waited four days, and then, on the 5th February last, sent through Mr. KURINO her memorable Note, in which she stated her intention of seriously considering what measures of self-defence she was called upon to take. "The Imperial Government," stated the Note, "have no other alternative than to terminate the present futile negotiations." A study of the Correspondence will certainly not lead the reader to condemn Japan's use of the word "futile." In the afternoon of the same day Baron KOMURA instructed Mr. KURINO to announce his withdrawal from S. Petersburg, while at 5.15 p.m. the Japanese Foreign Minister received a telegram from S. Petersburg, in which Mr. KURINO stated that he had been told by Count LAMSDORFF the previous night that the substance of the Russian answer had just been sent to Admiral ALEXIEFF to be transmitted to Baron ROSEN, that Admiral ALEXIEFF might happen (!) to introduce some changes so as to meet local circumstances, but in all probability there would be no such changes. What was the substance of Russia's answer before or after

Admiral ALEXIEFF's revision we do not know; but we may imagine from the previous course of negotiations how far it was likely to meet Japan's wishes. The Correspondence closes with Mr. KURINO's telegram of the 6th February, announcing that he had presented the Japanese Notes to Count LAMSDORFF and was withdrawing from S. Petersburg on the 10th of the month.

Such is the Japanese case; the full Russian case we need not expect ever to hear.

### JAPAN'S OBJECT IN THE WAR.

(Daily Press 9th April.)

It is perhaps unprofitable, when only two months are gone of a war which is confidently expected by many expert observers to last a long time (at least two years according to some), to speculate what will happen in the event of the victory of one of the combatants. Nevertheless the consideration of the matter is not a little interesting. Not much guess-work has been devoted at present to a forecast of what would follow upon a Russian victory. This does not arise, we imagine, from the fact that no one considers such an occurrence impossible, for that it cannot well be said to be. Rather the speculators shrink from the contemplation of the events consequent upon Russia gaining her ends in Manchuria and Corea. For any of the nations interested in the maintenance of the "Open Door" and the integrity of China, a Russian win in the present contest would mean either the extinction of their hopes or determined intervention to stay Russia's hands. At such a prospect anyone belonging to these nations must be aghast, for which reason he is loth to dwell upon it. A Japanese victory, on the other hand, is not held to be fraught with disastrous circumstances to the other Powers interested in North China, and, guesses at the future, should such be the result of the war, are consequently more pleasing to those who care to make them. There are not wanting those who prophesy that the supremacy of Japan in Corea at least will mean the gradual driving out of Western commerce, though they cannot deny that in Manchuria at least Japan's success means the foreign merchants' gain. But there is an ultra-alarmist school, flourishing chiefly in Germany, less in France, but also to be traced in Britain and the United States, for which the cry of the "Yellow Peril" is still a terror. In some places perhaps Russian intrigue and Russian gold has something to do with the spread of the cry, but there must also be those who are sincerely terrified at it. All such speculations, however, look far ahead. It is more interesting to see, if possible, what Japanese opinion itself has to say on the subject; and by Japanese opinion we mean, of course, uninspired opinion, for the Japanese Government naturally has nothing to say on the subject beyond that it is fighting for the maintenance of the independence and integrity of China and Corea.

Even as to Japanese lay opinion indications are scanty. We have already published an article from the Japanese Socialist journal, the *Heimin Shimbun*, which gives what may be presumed to be the view obtaining among the Socialist party in Japan. This view, briefly, was that Japan should, if she is fighting a righteous war, look for no recompense in the shape of land in Manchuria or Siberia. Japan is advised to recognise China's authority over all Manchuria and to induce the other Powers to take the responsibility of guarding the province against Russian interference. On the other hand, a prominent leader of the Japanese Progressist party (whose views are strongly

condemned by the *Heimin Shimbun*) was loudly applauded at a meeting of his party when he declared that Japan, if victorious, should take possession of the Manchurian divisions bordering on the Amur River, and also the Liaotung Peninsula. If such a statement is admissible, the Socialist paper declared, war is nothing but robbery and statesmen are robbers. These two views are extremes. We find a more moderate forecast in some remarks of "a leading member" of the Japanese Chamber of Deputies to an Italian journalist in Tokyo last month. The Japanese Deputy professed to be giving an outline of the terms of peace which he knew positively would be insisted upon by Japan, should she be successful. The principal points were as follows: In the first place, Russia must renounce all exceptional claims in Manchuria, which shall be administered for a period to be determined upon by China under the advice of representatives of Japan, Great Britain, and the United States. Secondly, during this provisional period Japan will occupy the province, which will be opened up completely to international commerce. Russia shall cede to Japan the island of Sakhalin; Port Arthur, and the other ports of the Liaotung peninsula being returned to China. Lastly, in consideration of the foregoing stipulation being accepted, Japan would be willing to reimburse Russia the full extent of her outlay in constructing the Chino-Manchurian Railway. It is impossible, of course, on the strength of this conversation of a "leading member" of the Chamber of Deputies with a foreign journalist to base any definite theories as to Japan's intended policy; but there is nothing inherently improbable in the outline given, except for the reimbursement by Japan to Russia of her outlay on the Manchurian Railway. How could Japan do this after an exceedingly expensive, even if successful, war? As for the cession of Sakhalin, this island was forcibly torn by Russia from Japan (in exchange for the worthless Kurile Islands), and it is only natural Japan should claim it back again if she now defeats Russia. The suggestions with regard to Manchuria are not unreasonable; but other Powers too have concerns in the province, if small, beside the three mentioned, and might therefore be represented among China's advisers in the administration. The scheme, of course, is based on a complete victory for Japan, and as we have said, such speculations are more interesting than profitable for the moment.

### PORT IMPROVEMENT IN CHINA.

(Daily Press 13th April.)

Amongst the some important stipulations embodied in the Protocol of September, 1901, were understood to be those clauses which provided for the improvement of the navigation of the approaches to Chinese ports open to foreign trade. For many years the condition of these approaches had become a crying scandal, so serious in deed that not only did foreign interests suffer, but the revenues of the Empire were injuriously affected. The school of statesmen to which belonged the late LI HUNG-CHANG saw, indeed, in these barriers a providential interference to pre-serve the isolation from foreign influences of China. The majority of Chinese statesmen merely looked on with calm indifference. China had got on very well with these impediments during the thousands of years covered by her history; surely this was self-evident proof that change was now superfluous. Meanwhile all the rest of the world was advancing; harbours elsewhere were being formed and enlarged,



and accommodation for yet larger vessels everywhere provided. Under the stimulus thus given trade was everywhere growing in bulk, and nations once comparatively insignificant growing rich and important. China alone was standing still. Commerce, for its economical carrying on, annually demanded larger ships; and to accommodate these harbour improvements were indispensably requisite, and a large portion of the revenues of the various states were regularly devoted to these improvements. China alone was content to see herself left in the background, with the result that her commerce was stagnating, and her importance amongst the nations rapidly disappearing. Nor was this all; the difference between China as she was, and China as she might be, was becoming so marked that the more covetous of the states were openly talking of dismemberment. China, they talked, had so mismanaged and wasted her resources that it was time that she should give way to more profitable nations. Such was the common language of the Continental Powers at the beginning of 1900; the events of the succeeding summer aggravated the situation. As the ruling powers at Peking were evidently bent on placing every possible obstacle in the way of foreign intercourse a special clause was introduced into the Protocol, providing for an improvement in the treaties already referring to the duties of the Chinese Government in regard to navigation. The three open ports of Tientsin, Shanghai, and Canton were more especially provided for. During the occupation of Tientsin the Provisional Government had already taken some steps towards the improvement of the Peiho River; a dredging plant had been obtained from Europe, and a good commencement had been made by works undertaken with the object of gradually removing some of the inconvenient and dangerous bends which had for some years had the effect of completely closing the river to steamer traffic between Tongku and the Bund at Tientsin. It was stipulated that the works thus begun should be carried on till all the obstructions possible were removed. With regard to Shanghai, the inadvisability of placing the local improvement works in the hands of a body having its headquarters at Peking was fully recognised, and an elaborate, much the same as that recently proposed for the Port of London, wherein all interests, native as well as foreign, were to be represented, was drawn up and finally approved. This was so far carried out that the elections under the scheme actually took place, and everything seemed ready for the actual inception of the undertaking. At Canton the requisite measures were left to be undertaken under the authority of the Maritime Customs, while at Tientsin the works undertaken by the Allied Commissioners, it was understood, would be continued and the port rendered accessible at all times for ingoing steamers.

It is curious to see how all these well-laid schemes have been permitted to pass out of recollection, and affairs to drift back into their old state. At Shanghai, as mentioned above, the election provided for was actually held, and the new body of Conservators met and elected a Chairman. With this vast amount of business performed, the Conservators adjourned, and nothing more has been heard of them from that day to this, while the condition of the approaches has been steadily going from bad to worse. In Tientsin a couple of useless bends had been removed by cutting passages through the narrow necks of intervening land, with the result that the fairway of the river, which for the past four years had been blocked to

ascending steamers, was fairly well cleared, and for the last twelve months or so a steamer, once over the Taku Bar, has found no difficulty in reaching the Tientsin Bund. With that all further progress has been practically suspended. Two of the worst bends, the work on which had been actually commenced in the early part of the last summer have been allowed to lie without any further steps being taken, while the Taku Bar, the clearing of which is of the utmost importance to the trade of the place, has been entirely neglected, and this year is in a worse state than ever, the ordinary vessels trading with the port being as a rule delayed three and four days owing to the want of any defined channel through the flats, which during the whole of the month of March did not at even the highest tides carry more than nine feet of water, the average being less than eight. The dredgers, it is true, are there, but the old excuse is still paraded, that there are no funds available to set them to work. Still more unsatisfactory is the state of affairs on the Whangpoo. Here the board was actually elected. The constituents, as was natural, seeing that the vast majority of the trade is in British hands, preferred to elect a British representative. This, though there was no suspicion of unfair dealing, gave offence to the German representatives, who for some incomprehensible reason desired to hold the controlling influence in the Board. Then a personal altercation arose as to who was to be Chairman. The United States Consul-General had been elected in the manner provided in the constitution, but the Deputy Inspector-General conceived that his office entitled him to act as Chairman. It has been apparently found impractical to reconcile these two competing claims, and the unfriendly feeling displayed by the disappointed German element has intervened to prevent any adjustment of the difficulty. In Canton under the control of the Maritime Customs similarly nothing has been done. Thus the whole thing, which needed only a little good feeling and a genuine desire to set to work, has been wilfully shipwrecked on that biggest farce of modern time—the concord of the treaty Powers. It is of course difficult or impossible to see any way out of the difficulty, but the result is important as showing how utterly the new doctrine of concord between the Powers has broken down when applied to any useful or practical end. In theory it has been held that each sovereign Power should have equal rights and equal say, and were each to really work for its own proper interests such a contention might, of course, work towards a practical end; but this is not the case. As a rule, the smaller Powers, having practically no interests to be affected, range themselves on one or other of the greater Powers, generally on the side of that which makes them the most reckless of promises. It needs little divination to perceive the inevitable result. Russia, and the circle of Powers whom she succeeds in bringing round her, scoff, of course, at anything not pointing to Russia's personal aggrandisement. Germany, ever ready, in her strange fascination, to help her neighbour over the stile, provided only that she can thereby administer a check to England, whom she curiously affects to believe is her natural antagonist, has become an adept in the art of obstruction, so that the United States and England, who control the lion's share of the trade, and are both sincerely anxious to see the conditions improved, in all cases when by this unnatural "concord" things come to a vote find themselves irretrievably left out in the cold. Such is the strange effect of the

concord which was, according to the sanguine admirers, to promote a state of universal peace, but which has already laid the foundations of what must at no great lapse of time prove to be the bloodiest and most revolutionary of wars yet seen.

## THE CHINESE IMPERIAL POST.

(Daily Press 16th March.)

The new Postal Department established by Sir ROBERT HART under the supervision of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs has so far been a great success, and although it has not yet been regarded by the Treaty Powers as sufficiently to be trusted to justify the abolition of the foreign post offices in the Treaty Ports it is extensively used by foreign residents in all the Treaty Ports. At present, of course, its field is limited even in China, and until that Empire has an organised internal postal service it cannot obtain admission to the Universal Postal Union. But the service as organised by the Imperial Maritime Customs is undoubtedly both reliable and effective so far as it goes, and if it could be extended through the interior, after the manner of the Japanese Postal Service, there would be little cause for complaint. It is interesting to learn that some hope of such an extension is now opening up. According to a despatch from Peking, the Boards of Revenue, War, and Commerce are drawing up a joint memorial to the Throne, recommending the abolition of the old Courier Post Department and the handing over of the transmission of all Government and official despatches throughout the Empire to the Chinese Imperial Post established by Sir ROBERT HART. The memorialists propose that the funds hitherto paid out of the Treasury for the support of the old Courier Post should be handed over to the Inspector-General for the extension of the new Postal Department in order to meet the requirements of the case. This Courier Post has, it seems, been in operation in China for nearly two thousand years, and it is undoubtedly a great step for the Imperial Government even to consider the handing over of the entire official and private mails to the Chinese Imperial Post, to the exclusion of all other modes of transmission, and looks well for the trust reposed by the Imperial Government in the administration of Sir ROBERT HART. That trust is, of course, about as complete as it well could be, and very amply deserved it is. The Chinese Government have learned to depend most implicitly upon the unfailing revenues secured from the Imperial Maritime Customs, and they are perfectly well assured that any other service the Inspector-General may organise and have under his complete control may be depended upon not only to work efficiently but also to yield, in due course, a handsome return.

Whilst, however, the Government of China is entirely satisfied with the working of the Postal Service established by Sir ROBERT HART, and will probably sanction its ultimate extension through the various provinces, thereby gradually superseding the native service, and while the foreign residents in the Treaty Ports make liberal use of the facilities afforded by this service, it by no means follows that the Treaty Powers will be content to accept it. They may urge that, however successfully the service may now be conducted, they have not a sufficient guarantee that it will be maintained. Sir ROBERT HART is not immortal, nor is it absolutely certain that the Customs will always continue under foreign management. The Chinese officials are not for one moment to be compared to the



Japanese; they possess neither the administrative ability, the grasp of detail, the honesty, nor the tenacity of purpose shown by the Japanese, qualities which have, in so short a period, placed Japan in the list of civilised and powerful nations. If once the European supervision were withdrawn from the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Service there can be no doubt in the minds of those cognisant of Chinese ways and idiosyncracies, that there would follow a rapid reversion to the old system of corruption, sloth, and procrastination. Trade would soon suffer, the revenue fall off, and smuggling become rife. The same with the Postal Administration. It can be relied upon while worked under Sir ROBERT HART and his able and energetic assistants. But what would happen if the administration were placed in the hands of even foreign-taught mandarins? Would it be maintained in efficiency? We greatly fear it would not. Moreover, some of the Powers are very loth to surrender any of the extra-territorial rights acquired in China. They maintain, and with a very good show of reason, that China is so incapable of effective self-government that they cannot part with any of the privileges they possess or in any way delegate to her the powers they now hold. They cannot submit their subjects to Chinese law, they cannot place the concessions on which they reside under Chinese administration, nor can they entrust their correspondence to the tender care of Chinese mandarins and letter-carriers. The events that marked with so black a stain the close of the last century at Peking would alone have sufficed to create doubt and distrust, if indeed those feelings had not existed for the previous half century. It is therefore unlikely that China will pass out of tutelage for many a long year to come. The Chinese officials show little sign of real improvement, nor is it likely that even the stimulus of Japanese example will have any appreciable effect on the apathy and corruption which hold the Chinese Government in bondage.

### HONGKONG'S HEALTH IN 1903.

(Daily Press, 18th April.)

The Hon. Dr. J. M. ATKINSON's report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of Hongkong in 1903 appears in the latest issue of the *Gazette*. The Principal Civil Medical Officer has a somewhat more favourable year to report on than when he last wrote, in spite of the fact that plague cases were much more numerous in 1903 than in 1902, there being 1,415 notified as against 572. There were 60 cases of small-pox in 1903 against 57 in 1902; but of cholera there were only 10 cases against 460; of enteric fever, 44 against 55; of malaria, 283 against 393; of beri-beri, 397 against 452; of dengue, 123 against 422, and of diphtheria, only 9 against 20. In all there were 6,185 deaths (1,251 from plague) in 1903 against 6,783 (582 from plague) in 1902; and the estimated population in 1903 being 325,631, while in 1902 it was 311,824, the death-rate consequently dropped from 21.7 per 1,000 to 18.9 per 1,000. It is to be noted that the non-Chinese death-rate came down from 19 per 1,000 to as low as 16.6 per 1,000, while the Chinese death-rate was reduced from 21.93 to 19.1 per 1,000. Yet the 1902 figures were an improvement on those of 1901, and the latter, as far as the Chinese were concerned, an improvement on the figures of 1900. A table of the relative mortality in the different seasons of 1903 gives the following results for the four quarters of the year:—

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	per 1,000
Non-Chinese	13.1	24.5	13.9	14.8	17.46
Chinese	17.46	25.32	17.83	16.8	25.32

But it appears that, apart from the ravages of plague and small-pox, the months of April, May, and June, so far from being the unhealthiest, have actually the lowest figures, as follows:—May, 379; June, 314; July, 375. Only February can show as good a record as May even, having also 379 deaths. The August deaths, on the other hand, exclusive of plague and small-pox, are 461, the September 454, and the October 517—the worst month, excluding the two diseases mentioned. Including them, June was the most fatal month in 1903, 724 deaths being its record, of which 343 were due to plague.

The birth-rate of the Colony showed a decline in 1903, when it was 3.17 per 1,000 against 3.8 in 1902. In 1901 it was 3.6 and in 1900 3.3 per 1,000, so that last year saw a turn in the advance. But, as has often been pointed out in official reports here, the number of the Chinese births registered does not give the actual Chinese birth-rate, for many of the infants dying within the first month or so of life remain unregistered as born. The non-Chinese birth-rate is not worked out separately; no deductions can be made about it. It may be remarked that it would be interesting if the European figures of births and deaths could be given instead of being merely classed with other "non-Chinese." It might mean a little extra labour, but surely the figures are within the reach of the compiler of the report? Additional interest would attach to an already excellently prepared document, if the Principal Civil Medical Officer would take this hint.

As copious extracts from Dr. ATKINSON's report are printed in another column, we need not dwell on the various details there set forth. But we should like to call attention to what he has to say, under the heading of "General sanitary condition of the Colony," with regard to the Public Health and Buildings Bill, which came into force on the 21st February. Though he says that the Bill will do much to further the better sanitary condition of the Colony, he points out that it will not produce an immediate effect. "Many of its sections apply to houses hereafter erected, and others, such as the cubicle sections, are so far-reaching in their application that they must of necessity be enforced gradually." But, by the alterations effected by the amending Ordinance of the 14th December last in some of the definitions in the Bill and in the cubicle and overcrowding sections, the carrying them into effect has been rendered more practicable. To the resumption of the worst insanitary areas, which it is proposed to do by means of an Improvement Trust, Dr. ATKINSON looks for more immediate amelioration of the Colony's sanitary condition. The resident public of Hongkong too looks anxiously to the promise of this Trust, the laying of the scheme for which before the Secretary of State our late Governor, Sir HENRY BLAKE, announced in his farewell speech to the Colony in November last. It is satisfactory to read of a more healthy year, as 1903 undoubtedly was, in spite of plague, but it is on permanent improvement in Hongkong, rendering it a safer city in which to dwell, whether we come from Europe or are from the East, that our attention must be concentrated.

At Kuala Lumpur, on the 29th March, the Selangor Chinese Chamber of Commerce was inaugurated. Mr. Loke Yew was elected President, Messrs. Chow Sow Lin and Loke Chow Kit, vice-Presidents, and Mr. San Ah Wing Secretary.

### DEPORTATION TO HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 14th April.)

The practice of deporting worthless or criminal persons from Shanghai to Hongkong is one of which we have frequently complained in the past, but it continues to flourish, and hardly a week appears to go by now in which a reader of court proceedings in our northern neighbour's Press cannot find some mention of an undesirable character who, with or without preliminary imprisonment, is to be removed from Shanghai and given a fresh chance in life in Hongkong. Matters have come to such a pass that the most recent Shanghai joke (which we quoted in yesterday's issue) is the child's answer to the teacher's question where bad people go to—"To Hongkong." Shanghai, in the popular phrase, is "rubbing it in" by thus laughing at us. But indeed it is no laughing matter. We are not inhumane, and we think it is very right that minor offenders should be given the chance to make a fresh start. But why in Hongkong, when Hongkong is not in any way responsible for their offending? We are not in a position to be a reformatory or moral sanatorium for other ports in the Far East. We are not over, but under-policed, and having so much work to do in looking after the hordes of low-grade and at least suspicious Chinese whom our labour-market attracts, we cannot with justice be called upon to undertake the supervision of non-Chinese rogues and vagabonds from other places. It is impossible to say definitely that any than British subjects are openly passed on to Hongkong, though it is certain that the "beachcombers" with whom we are favoured are not all British. The Insular Government of the Philippines recognised the equity of Hongkong's complaints not long ago, when it was decided to ship released convicts and other deportees of United States nationality direct to the States, instead of, as formerly, letting them proceed to Hongkong. But the Philippines, of course, are troubled with bad or suspicious characters of other nationalities, and of these we certainly get our share when the Philippines get too hot for them. Shanghai's offence against us, however, is worse, and the sting of it all is that British undesirables are legally sent here in a number of cases, to prey on the community. The Order in Council for the Government of H.B.M.'s subjects in China (and Japan, as it was originally) declares in its 107th clause that, "where an order of deportation is made, the Court shall not, without the consent of the person to be deported, direct the deportation of any person to any place other than Hongkong or England." The 112th clause goes on to say that, "when any person is deported to Hongkong, he shall on his arrival there be delivered, with the warrant under which he is deported, into the custody of the Chief Magistrate of Police of Hongkong. . . . who, on receipt of the person deported, with the warrant, shall detain him and shall forthwith report the case to the Governor. . . . who shall either by warrant (if the circumstances of the case appear to him to make it expedient) cause the person so deported to be taken to England . . . or else shall discharge him from custody." This is the legal sanction in case of deportees. But there are also British subjects who get into trouble in Shanghai, who are not definitely deported, but, as it were, let off with a caution if they undertake to go to Hongkong. Now with regard to the Order in Council, this was made in 1865, when circumstances were of course totally different from what they are now. The continuance of the practice



of "dumping" in Hongkong at the present date is iniquitous. As for the cautioned persons, who are sent on to Hongkong to try to amend their ways, the British authorities at Shanghai responsible for so sending them are certainly treating Hongkong in an unjustifiable manner in order to lighten their own labours. It is high time that a vigorous protest is made, and that the local Government of the Colony takes steps in the matter. Public complaints, however true, cannot alone do much against a long-established tradition; and the matter is, moreover, one which intimately concerns the policing of this Colony.

## HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(Daily Press, 11th April.)

Accounts from returned "trippers" indicate that Easter on the mainland and up the West River passed off in rather better weather than we had in Hongkong itself. As so many local residents took the opportunity of spending the holidays in the neighbouring parts of Kwangtung, the cool and not too sunny weather was much appreciated, and rain seems to have interfered little with anyone's arrangements. Walking parties and launch-parties alike appear to have been most successful. There is still a party of four Hongkong residents up the West River, who, when last reported, were to return some time this week. The demeanour of the inhabitants up river seems more friendly now than for a long time past, and, though small children still delight in shouting "fan-wei-ah" at long range, their elders are indifferent or even, when addressed in Chinese, genial. In Canton, too, good behaviour is the rule now among the natives. I heard one Chinaman complain that this was not always true of foreign sailors visiting Canton, which I am afraid must be the case.

I have not heard what the practical military results of the recent sham attack on Hongkong have amounted to, but in Army circles it is taken to mean that it is a forerunner of many similar movements for the purpose of revealing the weak points of the Island's defences. The new General is credited with having "made things hum" since his arrival; the new Admiral has been equally active in putting the Fleet through their facings; and when our new Governor arrives we may look for still further stirring up among the government departments.

I note that the site for the new Pavilion on the Cricket Ground has been marked off in the south-eastern corner, opposite to the City Hall. It seems to take up a rather large slice of this very limited area, and to my mind, at least, the change of site for the Pavilion is not altogether an improvement. It is true that spectators in the new Pavilion will have their backs to the sun and will consequently be able to watch the matches with more enjoyment, but it is a decided objection, I think from a public point of view, that the building will turn its back to such a leading thoroughfare and to the City Hall. It will also to some extent impair the light—now none too good—enjoyed by the Museum and Library in that building. Finally, it seems to me as though it would trench upon the cricket area more than the old building has done. This, however, is probably a mistake, but I do believe the new Pavilion will appear to restrict the area, and it will at any rate deprive tennis players of one of their best courts.

"Music as heard in the immediate vicinity of Glenealy Buildings at about 7 o'clock regularly each morning is calculated to exercise anything but a soothing influence upon the votary of Morpheus thus rudely awakened." So I am told by a friend of mine living there and I can quite believe him. Punctual to that hour, he explains, the tones of an organ are heard pealing from behind the leafy barrier that screens the S. Paul's College from the road, and then, in unison (!) with the instrument, break upon the ear the sound of lusty, raucous voices rendering what may be recognised as sacred melodies. What

is lacking in harmony is compensated for in vigour. This vocal performance is apparently stage-managed by the possessor of a resonant voice, and under his guidance, the youthful vocalists follow—more or less accurately and tunelessly—through a succession of hymn-tunes. Voices in the East and West appear to be widely dissimilar in their capacity for producing harmonious effect. The sound of young voices at home would be relished when joined together in harmony, but out here it is nothing short of an infliction. This pleasing performance is repeated at mid-day and again at seven in the evening. It is surely a case where a little may be calculated to go a long way.

Among the many street nuisances which one cannot help but refer to at the risk of tiresome repetition is the custom which obtains of Chinese coolies being allowed to carry carcasses of animals through the city from the markets and slaughter-houses without any covering over them. A more repugnant sight than the bleeding carcass of a pig, for instance, or a basketful of animal "lights" it is difficult to imagine. Surely the police should be able to check this nuisance.

A local resident writes to me:—"One of the greatest nuisances in the Colony—at all events in the eyes of Europeans—is the universally prevalent habit of expectoration on the part of the Chinese members of the community. I am told that this practice is one of the customs of the country, and certainly, to judge from its vogue among all classes of natives, irrespective of position, it would appear as if such were the case. From a sanitary standpoint alone this revolting habit should be vigorously suppressed, at any rate, in the public thoroughfares; and notices might be posted up in prominent positions declaring expectoration a punishable offence. It is so in law at home—why not out here? Those who are, by reason of their avocations, brought into daily contact with the Chinese, well know how nauseating is the disgusting practice, and surely we ought to consider the feelings of our women-folk in this respect? The look of surprise on a Chinaman's countenance when he is sharply reprimanded for indulgence in this habit might be regarded as amusing were not the offence so revolting. Here is fresh ground for our Sanitary Board to exploit. They have done good work in the past—perhaps they will see their way to remedy in some respects this pernicious evil." I am afraid that my correspondent is over-sanguine if he thinks it possible to stop Chinese from indulgence in the habit. It might be possible, however, to restrict them. The question has, I believe, been considered before—without result.

The doings of the Douglas steamer *Haimun*, which has been chartered as a despatch boat by the *Times*, are being followed with much interest by people all over the world as well as by those in Hongkong, who know most of the Europeans on board. It is commented upon that this boat has been able by means of her wireless telegraphy apparatus to get news through to Europe which would never have been passed by the censor. But the difficulty apparently is that the belligerents have no power to interfere with the ship because she flies the British flag. I notice that one home paper (and a Belfast one at that) proposes that rather than let the *Haimun* get hold of news calculated to be injurious to the contending Powers, they should treat her as a belligerent and sink her. Of course there may be professional jealousy at the bottom of the suggestion.

BANYAN.

The *Bangkok Times* writes:—"The fall of close on two inches of rain in three days at the beginning of April is something very unusual in Bangkok. But rain and thunderstorms seems to have been general over a large part of the country. It is reported that seven telegraph-posts were destroyed by lightning on the railway line, near Laksi, on Friday afternoon. The most surprising thing about the year, however, is the absence of the usual cholera epidemic. The water in the river was a little brackish for a very few days about the beginning of February, but since then it appears to have been quite drinkable.

## THE WAR.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

Kobe, 11th April.

Three Russian sailors from the *Chemulpo* fight passed through Kobe from Mastugama on Saturday. The Governor of Kobe gave the men parole, and presented each with a walking-stick and some cigarettes, while his wife presented them with several articles. The men speak highly of their treatment in Japan. They have now left by the M. M. steamer *Salazie* for Shanghai.

The Empress of Japan has presented artificial limbs to three wounded Russians, whose legs had to be amputated.

It is reported here that the efforts to raise the Russian vessel *Varyag*, which was sunk in the action off *Chemulpo* on the 9th February, have been successful.

LONDON 11th April.

According to information from S. Petersburg the Russian Squadron has left Port Arthur.

Kobe, 13th April.

Lieutenant Yamaguchi, with five men, proceeded in a small boat on a scouting expedition at the mouth of the Yalu River on Sunday and discovered seven Russians in a junk. The Russians fired on them, whereupon some Japanese cavalry appeared on the south bank and opened fire. The Russians were then reinforced by ten men. The firing lasted for 80 minutes, after which the Russians retreated, having one man killed and two wounded.

LONDON 13th April.

It is telegraphically reported that heavy firing has been heard in the direction of Port Arthur this morning, lasting from five o'clock until seven.

LATER.

A semi-official report states that the Russian first-class battleship *Petropavlovsk* has been sunk at Port Arthur and only four officers have been saved.

LATER.

It is reported at S. Petersburg that Admiral Makaroff was killed in the engagement at Port Arthur.

LONDON, 14th April.

In consequence of the death of Admiral Makaroff in the battle on the 13th at Port Arthur Admiral, Alexieff will take over command of the Russian fleet until the arrival of Admiral Rogestvensky, who will succeed Admiral Makaroff.

LATER.

Thirty-nine of the crew of the *Petropavlovsk* were saved.

LONDON, 14, April.

The Russian official report of the naval battle off Port Arthur states that the *Bestrachni* was sunk whilst fighting, only five of the crew being saved. The *Pobieda* struck a mine amidships, but made safely for the harbour.

LONDON, 15th April.

It is semi-officially reported at S. Petersburg that Admiral Skrydoff is to succeed the late Admiral Makaroff.

The bombardment of Port Arthur continued all day on Thursday.

Kobe, 15th April.

The Royal Palace at Seoul was destroyed by fire on Thursday. It is not known whether this was the work of incendiaries or not.

Kobe, 17th April.

It is stated that a party of Russians have occupied Tongchin, where they invaded the Post Office and cut the telegraph wires. The inhabitants have fled.



[FROM THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.]

\* Tokyo 14th April.

A telegram received by the Government at Tokyo from Rear-Admiral Uryu, the Commander of a detached squadron, states that it is reported by one of our torpedo flotillas that one of our squadrons made close approach to Port Arthur on the 13th inst., and opened fire on the Russian fleet. During the battle the Japanese warships sank a Russian battleship of the *Petropavlovsk* class, and also a torpedoboot destroyer. The whole of our offensive squadron is safe. An Official report from Admiral Togo has not yet been received.

Tokyo, 17th April.

Admiral Togo reports that our combined fleet commenced the eighth attack on Port Arthur on the 11th inst., as previously planned. The Fourth and Fifth torpedo-boat-destroyer flotillas, the 14th torpedo flotilla, and the *Koryo Maru* reached the mouth of Port Arthur at midnight on the 12th inst., and effected the laying of mines at several points outside the Port, defying the enemy's search-lights.

At dawn on the 13th inst. the Second torpedo-destroyer flotilla descried a Russian destroyer trying to enter Port Arthur Harbour and, after an attack lasting ten minutes, sank her.

Another Russian destroyer was discovered coming from the direction of Laotishan and our ships attacked her; she managed to flee, however, into the harbour.

On our side during these engagements we suffered no casualties with the exception that two seamen on the destroyer *Ikadachi* were slightly wounded.

We had no time to rescue the crew from the sinking Russian vessel, as the enemy's cruiser *Bayan* approached the vicinity at that time.

The Third fleet arrived off Port Arthur at eight o'clock that morning when the Russian cruiser *Bayan* came out of Port Arthur harbour and attacked.

The Russian cruisers *Novik*, *Askold*, and *Diana*, and the battleships *Petropavlovsk*, *Pobieda*, and *Poltava* immediately came out and commenced an offensive attack.

Our Third fleet, tardily answering the Russian guns, and gradually retiring, enticed the enemy 15 miles south-east of Port Arthur, when our First fleet, receiving information from the Third by means of wireless telegraphy, suddenly appeared before the enemy and opened fire.

While the enemy was endeavouring to regain Port Arthur a battleship of the *Petropavlovsk* type struck the mines we had laid on the previous evening, and sank at 10.32 a.m.

Although another ship was observed to have lost her freedom of movement, the confusion of the enemy's ships prevented us from identifying her.

The enemy finally managed to regain Port Arthur.

Our Third fleet suffered no damage, and damage sustained by the enemy, excepting what has been mentioned above, was probably slight also.

Our First fleet did not arrive within firing distance.

Our fleets retired at 1 p.m. and prepared for another attack.

Our ships again made an approach to Port Arthur on the 14th inst.

The Second, Fourth, and Fifth destroyer flotillas, and the Ninth torpedo flotilla also joined our larger ships at 3 a.m., and the Third fleet at 7 a.m.

None of the enemy's ships were outside Port Arthur at that time.

Our First fleet arrived at 9 a.m., discover-

ed three mines laid by the enemy, and destroyed them.

The new cruisers *Kasuga* and *Nisshin* were despatched to the west of Laotishan and made an indirect bombardment for two hours, this being the first action of these ships.

The new forts at Laotishan were finally silenced.

Our forces retired at 1.30 p.m.

\*[By courtesy of the Japanese Consul.]

## OPERATIONS NEAR THE YALU.

The *N.C. Daily News* publishes the following despatch dated Tokyo, 6th April:—The Russian troops who were in the Wiju direction have recrossed the Yalu. It is believed that the Russians on the Kiuliencheng-Antungshien line are not the enemy's main force, and naturally any engagement that may take place in that direction may not be decisive, but it will encourage the subsequent grand operations. The Russians are constructing entrenchments at different points on the Yalu and Tumen rivers, among other places, but they are all apparently incomplete, and should one point be broken by the Japanese, the enemy will have very serious difficulty in effecting a mutual reinforcement. The general thawing of the ice on the Yalu and the muddy state of the roads cannot but impede prompt operations, but it is believed that this will not affect the Japanese plans.

## NEWCHWANG.

The U. S. gunboat *Helena* arrived here yesterday from Newchwang, says the *N.C. Daily News* of the 7th inst. She left Newchwang on the morning of the 3rd inst. and, after a stay there of five months, and those on board say that they have had a very good time during their sojourn there. Everything was quiet in Newchwang when the *Helena* left, and there were seventeen vessels in port. H.M.S. *Espiegle* was to come out of dock on the following day and would probably also take her departure, it being thought best by the commanders of the two men-of-war to leave and let the Russians and Japanese fight out their struggle for supremacy. All women and children had been advised to leave, and the railway officials were ready to depart at very short notice. The only other man-of-war in harbour was the Russian gunboat *Sivoutch* (950 tons displacement and 1,125 indicated horse-power), which was expected to come out of dock on the 4th inst. and was to be used as a floating battery. In the opinion of our informant it was very improbable that Newchwang could withstand any serious attack. Mines were to be laid in the harbour and a new fort was in course of erection on the east bank of the river about two miles above Newchwang and opposite the railway terminus. With this exception there is only the old fort, with no larger guns than 5-inch, and there has been little or no target-practice, the guns having been fired once only in the last few months. A couple of Japanese gunboats could easily demolish both forts. There were about 10,000 troops in Newchwang and the vicinity, and it was reported that there were 10,000 Russian troops south of Mukden, but the latter number is thought to be greatly exaggerated. The railway as far as Tashichiao junction was practically under the absolute control of the Russians, who had officials aboard every train and at every station. It was expected that the port would be attacked by the Japanese immediately the ice broke up, and the Russian General in command of the forces south of Moukden, who was in Newchwang, was of the same opinion. News from Peking, however, was to the effect that the Japanese were not at all likely to make an attack upon Newchwang for some time yet.

## NORTHERN TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams are from the *N.C. Daily News* recently to hand:—

Tokyo, 7th April.

It is rumoured that the Russians have planted submarine mines in the estuary of the Yalu, and on the coast off Takushan.

It has transpired that the Russians have destroyed the bridges over the rivers in North Corea. A battery of eight Russian guns at Chongju has been taken back to Antungshien.

The Japanese fighting line is reaching different points on the left bank of the Yalu. The American mines at Unsan, and the English mines at Eunsau, are being protected by the Japanese.

Coreans arriving from Vladivostok state that the population between Vladivostok and Possiet are fleeing into the interior in fear of a Japanese attack. The Russian garrisons are also retreating. There is only a small force of Cossacks at Hunchun, and there are small bodies of scouts along the Tumen.

Tokyo, 8th April.

The official returns of the Japanese casualties at Port Arthur in the various engagements aggregate 114, including fourteen killed outright, nine who have died of their wounds, and forty who have recovered.

Tokyo, 8th April.

The thawing of the ice is expected at Vladivostok about the 24th instant.

## FROM CHINESE SOURCES.

The *Sinwenpao* learns from a letter from Fengtien that all the materials of the Russian Afforestation Co. on the Korean frontier have been removed to Hyahotze, the reason, it is alleged, being that there are Russian cavalry stationed outside of the Co.'s concession; but it is believed this is a contemplation on the part of Russia to abandon Corea.

## MARQUIS ITO IN COREA.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Chemulpo, 17th March.

The scene at Chemulpo to-day, when Marquis Ito arrived, consisted chiefly of sunshine and dust, surprises and laughter. The sunshine began early and held its own throughout the day. Corea is one of the brightest, sunniest lands in the world; not too excess—not baked dry and burned fiercely, like Egypt, nor changing every half hour like Japan, nor smothered in hideous dust-storms from the great deserts, like North China, nor steaming with unwholesome humid heat like the Philippines, but just as ideally genial a climate as I have ever known, in many years of wanderings.

Marquis Ito came in the *Hongkong Maru*, a large mail steamer belonging to the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, running between Hongkong and San Francisco. She had been converted into a cruiser, painted gray and armed with four quick-firing guns, 4.7 inch, and some machine guns; her business was to be the chasing of the Russian Volunteer Fleet steamers, but there are now none to chase, at least none east of Suez, so the *Hongkong Maru* has now no special use for her 19 knots speed, and will probably soon resume her peaceful and money-making pursuits. Meantime her guns have nothing more to do than fire salutes. As Marquis Ito comes in the special capacity of Imperial Envoy representing the Emperor of Japan personally, that is to say, not as a mere Minister, a royal salute was accorded him by the foreign warships in Chemulpo, and was returned by the *Hongkong Maru*. No Korean salute was fired, as the Korean navy, consisting of one refurbished merchant steamer, has no guns.

All Chemulpo turned out to see the great man from Japan come ashore, and about half of the Japanese and foreign diplomatic and other officials in Seoul had come down to meet him, in their important clothes, and some silk hats. Frock coats and silk hats look very incongruous among the varied and picturesque costumes of the Far East, and probably the Korean coolie, in his voluminous bundle of dirty-white cotton wrappings and preposterous hat, thought our Consular and diplomatic dignitaries looked perfectly outlandish.

There was a company of about 200 Japanese soldiers drawn up at the jetty as a guard of honour. They looked quite at home and stolidly businesslike. Their uniform, black with yellow facings, looks neat and attractive to the eye, but something less attractive to the enemy's marksmen would be better for field service. The Japanese troops have a sort of khaki uniform for summer, but in winter they wear only these vivid colours.

There was also a small squad of Japanese cavalrymen of the Imperial Guard, dismounted, in their bright red uniform. Like the infantry, these men looked very placid and matter-of-



fact. There was not a trace of swagger or of roughness about any of them.

Further back from the jetty, the road was flanked by Japanese school children, boys on the right, girls on the left, about 200 of each, and not a clean-wiped nose in the whole lot. Some say the Japanese believe a sloppy nose is a sign of health in children. Certainly it seems so.

Behind these gaily-dressed rows of merry little tots there were crowds of solemn, sheepish-looking Koreans, tier on tier of them, up the face of a steep little hill overlooking the road from the jetty into the town. If I were asked about the feeling of the Koreans on the subject of Marquis Ito's mission, I should say they did not feel at all. If there is any Korean who really cares much about anything in the world, I have never seen him, and I really have seen many Koreans since ten years ago. The crowd to-day showed a casual curiosity, nothing more; here was something to see, something to warrant a cessation of all work (though they seldom require a warrant!), but I do not think the Koreans at large cared a straw about the momentous event or its significance.

The streets of the Japanese settlement were hung with banners and mottoes, simple in the extreme; and most of the Japanese buildings, especially the consulate, post-office, railway station, shipping companies' offices, and principal shops, were similarly decorated.

On the jetty itself, about 11 a.m., stood a small knot of principal personages: Minister Hayashi and his secretary, the whole Japanese Consular staff of Seoul and Chemulpo, about a dozen army officers, and a few civilians, merchants and so on. There were also about a dozen foreigners scattered about, nearly the total muster of Chemulpo, including the British and Chinese Consuls. No other country has a Consul here: Russia had one, but on the outbreak of hostilities he was suddenly panic-stricken, and ran down to the Japanese Consulate, begging to be protected. This sounds like a "yarn," but it is not. Of course he was perfectly safe and would not have been even asked to take down his flag; the Russian Consul at Fusan stayed at his post till the end of the month, and left of his own accord, being unexceptionably treated up to the time of his departure.

The most prominent feature of the whole bright scene here to-day was a gorgeous sedan chair which the Emperor of Corea sent down from his place at Seoul, for the conveyance of the august person of the Japanese Emperor's special envoy. The chair was upholstered in primitive vermilion and peacock blue; none of your half-hearted medium tints, but plain outspoken colours that could make themselves heard and felt. The shape of the chair was about the same as the ordinary sort seen in pictures of Old London.

This vehicle was to be carried on the shoulders of eight sturdy Korean bearers, dressed in a kind of uniform. All Korean dresses look like very loosely tied bundles; no form, no shape, no fit, no pattern, just big slack masses of cotton-cloth. The dress of these bearers may be called "uniform," because it was distinctly less slack than most, and had a sash round the middle. And the hat was a trifle more babyish in size and style than the usual Korean hat.

Besides the group of important persons on the jetty, there was a very humble one, though from some points of view as important as almost any—a photographer. He was a struggling local artist, who had never seen any good chance like this for a long time, so he was very anxious to get a good view. It was an awkward place to manoeuvre a camera, for every position that would command the landing would have the sun straight in front, and that would spoil a photo. After the man had potted about for half an hour and at last got a fine position, to his dismay a lordly sub-lieutenant brusquely ordered him off! And here was the boat from the *Hongkong Maru* quite near the jetty now; it would be alongside in two or three minutes, and there was no chance to find another place. As the photographer looked round despairingly, I caught his eye, and on the spur of the moment took him under my protection. The name of a great English paper carries weight, and the official pass from the Japanese War Office carries more, so as my employee the poor photographer was allowed to remain undis-

turbed in the very best position. As a matter of fact he was not in my service at all, but he gave me in gratitude the first copies of his photos, and they were far better than those I took for myself. In this case a friend in need is the mother of invention.

And then, after all, Marquis Ito did not come!

When the boat touched the jetty, two natty officials stepped ashore and informed Minister Hayashi that the Marquis was slightly indisposed after the voyage, and was hardly equal to the task of landing at once and rushing up to the capital without a little rest. So he would tiffin on board, and would be glad if Mr. Hayashi would take tiffin with him; then they could land about three, without hurry or fuss.

This information spread from the jetty all along the lines of waiting people, up the road, and everybody just laughed, that patient, good-humoured laugh which takes the place of disappointment with Japanese. They had stood for hours, in a blustering dusty wind, eager to sing the *Kami-ga-yo* and to shout *Banzai*, and to get a momentary glimpse of Japan's "Grand Old Man"—and it all came to nothing! It was a good joke on them. *Shikatanagai*, it could not be helped, so they all laughed and went home.

Everybody intended to go down again to the jetty at three o'clock, but another disappointment was in store, for Marquis Ito and Minister Hayashi came ashore almost unobserved at 1.30, and simply walked off to the Consulate before anybody knew they had come. No gaudy sedan chair, no soldiers, no school children, no national anthem, no cheers, no ovation; the great man, the one on whom largely depends at this critical time the destiny of several nations, came ashore just as if he had been an ordinary mortal.

Arrived at the Consulate at 1.40, he received visitors without ceremony up to the time of his departure, 3.30. The crowd soon gathered, lining the streets thickly in the immediate vicinity, waiting to get a peep at the Marquis on his way to the station. It was mainly a Japanese crowd, quite of the usual sort, with a few soldiers here and there, a few housemaids and nursemaids with babies, and a predominance of the eternal small boy. The chief amusement of the crowd was to pass remarks on Marquis Ito's distinguished visitors as they went in and out. The Korean is a never-failing source of merriment to the Japanese; the slatternly-looking uniforms of the Korean police and military officers, designed in imitation of Japanese, are in painful, pitiful contrast. In all Asia, and perhaps in all the world, there is no nation quite so clean, neat, and spruce as the Japanese, while the Korean is the worst sloven in the world.

Herein was a good illustration of the saying that "clothes make the man." There was a striking contrast between the firm, smart step-out and the ashamed-looking slouch. The Japanese, knowing that he looks spick and span, and that the sword at his side is his friend and constant companion, almost a part of himself, is obviously blood-relation of the Korean, has the same features, the same everything, yet is strangely unlike in manner and bearing, for the Korean is conscious of his own slatternliness, and his whole appearance seems to say, "I know I am no credit, but I really have no energy to buck up." His very facial expression invites people to laugh at him, and be sorry for him.

Marquis Ito received them in turn, in a quiet, unassuming, kindly manner. This caused mild surprise among the Koreans, for they thought a King Stork was coming into their frog-pond. They are not alone in this idea, for I have seen it suggested in Europe and America that Japan is likely to ride roughshod over Corea. No greater mistake could be made than to think so. Those writers who anticipate a tendency to become overbearing, or to develop "swelled head," on the part of the Japanese, do not know them. I suppose nearly all nations have their Chauvinists, their Jingoists, their Maffickers, but I am sure Japan has less of this element than most of the great nations. There is no more friendly, unassuming gentleman in the world than the Japanese of the dominant class; and their power over the masses is greater than in western nations.

As an illustration of unaffected modesty and kindness I may mention a recent incident in Seoul. I went to the Japanese Legation

and asked for one of the secretaries. I was received by a quiet, pleasant man who talked with me for about an hour. I questioned him a great deal, and discussed freely, and finally I asked, "Is there any chance to see Minister Hayashi, or is he too busy nowadays, and too much bothered already by newspaper men?" Placidly he answered, "I am Minister Hayashi; the secretary was out, so I thought I could tell you what you wished to know." This frank simplicity and willingness to do a service is a characteristic which I have found to be practically universal among the Japanese, and I have been among them, off and on, during fifteen years. High-and-mightiness is one of the rarest things among them.

Marquis Ito had no time for more than a few words with each caller. Then he entered the warm-hued sedan chair and was borne at a trot to the railway station, hotly pursued by the large crowd. The troops lined the station yard. The hurrying crowd just regained breath enough to shout one *Banzai* as the Marquis disappeared into the train, and that ended the proceedings. He settled down comfortably, in a palace car built for the Korean Emperor, and did not trouble about further goodbyes, or speeches on the platform, or bowing to the cheers, or anything. The train puffed off, and the rain came on. Towards evening there was a little snow.

## THE TSAR AND HIS ADVISERS.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

A perusal of the course taken after Count Lamsdorff's interview with the Tsar at the beginning of August, as recorded in the Japanese Blue-book just issued, will readily afford to the unprejudiced reader a full and sufficient explanation of what might otherwise appear a strangely abrupt method of breaking off professedly friendly relations. As a fact the guiding hand of Count Lamsdorff is missing in all the subsequent correspondence. Like weak monarchs in all ages, the Tsar, distrusting his regular advisers, yet not feeling himself strong enough to dismiss them entirely, sought to adopt a middle course and employ amateur advisers to extricate him from the mess into which his own folly had entangled him. The appointment of Admiral Alexieff as virtually Russian satrap in the Far East relieved of any obligation to report to any of the Tsar's responsible Ministers, was only one of a series of gigantic blunders which have gone far in destroying the prestige of the Empire. The Tsar is well known to have surrounded himself with a crowd of irresponsible Ministers, to whom he has recourse when in his eyes the ordinary holders of office are not competent. Constitutionally in Russia, as elsewhere, it is held that when once a Minister has lost the confidence of his master the latter is bound to dismiss him; but so plain a course has not recommended itself to the mind of the Tsar, who thinks his interests best subserved by setting a check on the movements of his own Ministers. In connection with this habit of the Tsar the name of a M. Besabrasoff is widely mentioned. M. Besabrasoff is known to have two darling interests in view. In the first place, he is a hater of M. De Witte, and is generally credited with the inception of the plot which removed him from his portfolio as Minister of Finance; secondly, he is known as the originator of a scheme for exploiting very much in his own interests the possessions of Russia in Central Asia; these schemes met with no favour from M. de Witte, whence the cause of his revenge. Thirdly, the Tsar, having heedlessly placed himself in the hands of Admiral Alexieff, finds himself entangled in the meshes of his crooked policy, and finds no way of escape without having recourse to his regular Ministers whom he thoroughly distrusts. More dark assertions are openly made about the dark superstitions which cast a cloud over the private life of the Tsar; that he believes himself under the special ban of Heaven is apparent in his daily acts. His extraordinary appeal to the higher Powers in his declaration of war against Japan is only one instance out of many. The extraordinary police precautions which he considers necessary to safeguard his person are only indications of a morbid fear of assassination, which is rendering his life a blacker death than death itself. In fact there is every reason to believe that the present



war has been forced upon unwilling Ministers by the weakness of the Tsar himself. So only is the very peculiar course taken in the Tsar's name by Count Lamsdorff to be accounted for with any show of consistency. We are aware that it was the fashion to parade before the world the peaceful instincts of the present occupier of the throne of Peter the Great. If these instincts have been productive of anything, that thing is certainly not peace. The very Peace Congress at the Hague had a narrow escape of plunging the world in a bloody war at all events while the Tsar was credited with preaching peace abroad, at home he or his advisers have been straining their utmost efforts towards the creation of warlike weapons and the collection of warlike stores. It was not from want of pressure from the Tsar, but from the innate rottenness of the Russian system, that the opening of 1904 found his forces in Eastern Asia after years of preparation at last taken at a disadvantage.

### SONS OF THE SEA.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Sometimes there is a whole world of unsuspected significance behind the most casual commonplace. For instance, the unique Inland Sea of Japan, studded with thousands of little islands, is the home of myriads of boats and boatmen. It is almost impossible to find a piece of water in or near Japan without finding white sails dotted plentifully over it. The Japanese artist, who can seldom get his imagination to carry him beyond the realm of things he sees and knows, never depicts a boatless sea. Be it sunrise or sunset, moonlight or silver-gray mist, calm or storm, fjord or lake or rolling ocean, every piece of water has its sampans or junks, and sailor-men born.

The world at large knows this, to weariness perhaps, for one may tire of Japanese screens and "the invariable white sails on the horizon." But the world seldom thinks that Japan probably excels all nations in sea population. That is a big thing to say. "Little Japan"—to lead the big Powers? To beat them hollow, to stand far in front of all the world?

Precise figures are not obtainable in any country, for "sea-going population" is a variable quantity. There are men who spend their lives in boats yet never get out of rivers and harbours. There are men who go to sea at times and at other times get shore employment. There are several other factors to consider, rendering any statistics open to challenge. So the comparison can only be approximate, and the deductions only generalisations.

There are probably no seas in the world so crowded with fishing boats as the Japanese waters. The whole nation, over forty millions, subsists on a fish-and-rice diet; probably no nation in the world eats as much sea-fish. The Chinese have also large numbers of sea-junks, along the coast from the Yangtze southward, but their total salt water population cannot compare with that of Japan; while North China and Korean waters are remarkably desolate by contrast.

There are great numbers of small craft to be seen in the Mediterranean, and along the coasts of the British Isles, and northern European countries, but nowhere do they appear in such countless swarms as off the coasts of Japan, not only in the Inland Sea, but out on the mighty Pacific, the misnamed ocean of terrific typhoons. Japanese trading schooners, and fishing and whaling craft of the bigger and bolder types, range from the Behring Sea, Kamchatka, and the Aleutian Islands, Alaska and Vancouver, down to the Thursday Island pearling-grounds, the palm-fringed coral islands of the cannibal Kanaka tribes, the Solomons, the Friendlies, the Marquesas, Fiji, and Tahiti, the Carolines, and the Great Barrier Reef. Not in their thousands, at these remote places, but if ever a lonesome group of islets, out of the world entirely, have but one little trading schooner to visit them once in a year, it is an even chance that that one boat is a Japanese. And of the whalers, sealers, pearlers, smugglers, "black-birders" or quasi-slavers, even pirates, roaming about the myriad islands of Melanesia and Polynesia, under captains of European blood, the crews are usually composed of a few Japanese and a mixture of all sorts.

Really I think it is out of the question to estimate the numbers of these Oriental Vikings; I do not suppose anyone in Japan knows. As a tangible factor in the present war the material affoot in the Pacific archipelagoes may not have any direct value at all. But as an indication of the spirit of the Japanese race, and the character of the opposition Russia is likely to meet, the vast Pacific Ocean certainly tells a tale. It is almost the tale of our British Howards, Drakes, Frobishers, Greivilles, Raleighs; as they were found in every corner of the north and south Atlantic, the Japanese are in every corner of the Pacific. There are some differences; I will not try to press the parallel too far, but so far as Russia is concerned there is only too much truth in it. For Russia has practically no "sons of the sea." Her Baltic sailors are mostly Finns and Swedes, good sturdy fellows, but utterly lacking in "go." Her Black Sea sailors are Crim Tartars and Levantine riffraff. Her Pacific sailors are almost non-existent. She has a good length of Pacific coastline, peopled by half-Eskimo tribes, and the only fishing that is done in these waters is done by Japanese. The Russians proclaim laws to exclude them, as Spain made laws to exclude British ships from trading with Spanish America; and the Japanese incessantly poach, smuggle, trespass, pirate, fight, and do everything in Russian waters that Englishmen did in Spanish 500 years ago. Only the Government of Japan, being of the Twentieth Century, disapproves, and prevents such misconduct when it can. But Russia has no maritime population out here. There is no sea spirit in Russia. She spends money freely, trying to force some sort of maritime growth; but her people do not take to it. It is as hopeless as if a duck hatched a lot of pheasant eggs and tried to teach the chicks to swim. Nature is not a mere garment, to be put on or taken off, to be scissored and sewn and trimmed at will. Russia crying ceaselessly for ice-free ports, access to open water, merchant marine expansion, and naval power, is a great overgrown baby crying for the moon.

The Japanese, even those who are not sailors by profession, are familiar with the idea of braving the sea in all its moods; danger is to them a thing to play with, to laugh at, to glory in; if Death claims his own, every now and then—well, that is part of the game. Centuries of the Samurai régime, and familiarity with the swift "swish" of the two-handed sword, generation after generation, gradually eliminated from the Japanese race all regard for the value of life, all notion of the terrors of death. Death is to these people a much lighter matter than many of the troubles of life. In fact, death is nothing to them. A Japanese, standing carelessly on a railway crossing, may be just dragged aside in time to avoid a train by an inch; he laughs hugely. It is the biggest joke he has come across for a long time! This utter callousness often angers the foreigner greatly. But it has a real value, at the right time and place. It is the foundation stone of intrepidity. It is this, and this alone, that makes a race of men defy the sea and conquer it, as none have done except the Anglo-Saxon and Japanese: and who does that, can conquer all.

### HONGKONG AND THE FILIPINOS.

#### THE LUKBAN CASE.

Perhaps many in Hongkong know but little of the "Lukban Case," now awaiting decision at Manila, though it is closely connected with this Colony. It is alleged that Ricarte, a Filipino general, who fought against the Spaniards, and subsequently against the U.S. troops, was assisted to return from Hongkong to the islands by Dr. Justo Lukban. In days past, Ricarte, after prolonged fighting, was captured by the Americans, and, refusing to take an oath of allegiance, was exiled from the Philippines. For some time he remained at Hongkong, where he managed to keep body and soul together by more or less humble occupation. In the middle of December last he returned to Manila on board the Indo-China steamer *Loong Sang*, the quartermasters, apparently, assisting him. The quartermasters are now under arrest at Manila. According to the evidence of Jose Muñoz, Ricarte arrived at Manila at the request of his lieutenants. By their financial

aid he remained there for more than two weeks, and during that time he appointed a number of generals, among whom were Isabelo de los Reyes, Pio del Pilar, Justo Lukban, Vicente Lukban, and Cayetano Lukban. Ruiz, who remained in Hongkong, was to fill the position of Secretary of War. Another witness, Scarella, a detective, testified that several meetings were held in which the defendant decided to bring Ricarte to the islands for the purpose of carrying on another revolution, and that Dr. Justo Lukban, when he returned to Hongkong, furnished Ricarte with financial aid. He also stated that there were present at the meeting Mariano Noriel and Dr. Gomez, and that Pio del Pilar was interviewed as to the advisability of the move, and arrangements were made to confer with Malvar and several others.

Dr. Justo Lukban is now at Hongkong, and has been interviewed by a *Daily Press* representative. He left Manila for Japan in September, the climate not agreeing with him. The charge was made during his absence. After a pleasant sojourn at Tokyo and other places in Japan he came to Hongkong and set up in practice, thinking this Colony healthier for him than the other port. When the charge was made in January his two brothers were arrested, only being released on putting up a bail of \$5,000 gold each. Dr. Lukban declares that the charge is false. Scarella has never been in his house, and was only known to him on one occasion when he went to visit Scarella's mother, then ill. Mariano Noriel was known by name only to Dr. Lukban; he had only met Pio del Pilar once, and that time at Aguinaldo's palace. Dr. Gomez belonged to the Nationalist party, whereas Dr. Lukban does not believe in the Nationalist, but belongs to a Democratic party now in formation. Dr. Lukban did not conspire with Ricarte, or give him any money. When Ricarte went to Manila Dr. Lukban was in Japan.

#### MR. SIXTO LOPEZ.

While Manila newspapers rave about the dangers of the Hongkong Junta and the risk of allowing the Filipino patriots to go back to Manila, it is rather interesting to read some contrary views in representative American papers. There is no newspaper more representatively American than the *Springfield Daily Republic* (though it does not come from one of the leading cities of the United States)—in fact, it is recognised generally by Americans as a free, outspoken organ. In recent issues of the paper appear some notable articles about the present situation in relation to the United States Government's refusal of entrance to the Philippines of some of the men who are presently exiled in Hongkong, and who have property in the islands which they naturally want to reap the profits of, and more than that, families whom they long to find themselves amongst. It is interesting to note that the *Republican* has written more than once of the wrong inflicted upon certain Filipinos by their expulsion and compulsory absence from the archipelago simply because of a technical point of law involved in the taking of the oath of allegiance. Mr. Sixto Lopez will be well remembered in Hongkong in many circles. He is a cultured Filipino gentleman, whose family suffered severely by the occupation by the Americans of the Philippines, he himself having had to flee to Hongkong to escape the fate of a patriot who chooses to uphold his country's cause.

His secretary, Mr. Thos. T. Patterson, will also doubtless be remembered by not a few in Hongkong. During his stay here some two years ago he made himself extremely popular, and on his return from an ineffectual attempt to land in the Philippines—ineffectual because he would not take the oath of allegiance, being a British subject—his welcome by his friends here was a thing to be remembered. In February his daughter was christened at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, by Rev. Canon Childs-Clarke, Sir Horace Tozer acting as godfather. After the ceremony the Filipino colony in London, in recognition of Mr. Patterson's services to their country, presented Miss Patterson with a christening gift in the form of a handsome gold necklace with diamond and ruby pendant.

Correspondence in the journal above referred to shows that an American living in the west offered Governor Wright a \$100,000 bond guaranteeing Mr. Sixto Lopez's pacific



disposition while residing in his own home. The offer was not accepted, on the ground that Mr. Lopez would not take the oath of allegiance. Since then he has made two attempts to land in Manila, on each occasion without success. In conclusion one could not do better than quote again from a correspondent of the *Republican*:—"Sixto Lopez was over here working for Filipino independence, and the best way to punish the traitor was to punish his family and servants, 'until he came into the reservation and became a good Injun.' That a low, ignorant, cruel, revengeful human savage should use such methods to gratify spite is not strange; but that a great nation, posing as the most civilised and enlightened, ever ready to criticise others for cruelty, should adopt such a policy to subjugate a brave people fighting for self-government is—well, I won't say any more, for unfortunately, I belong to that nation. If the story of the Lopez family is the only history of the war we are ever to have, it ought to be widely circulated."

## GREAT FIRE AT KOWLOON

### GODOWNS DESTROYED—HEAVY EXPLOSIONS.

On the 90th inst. shortly after three o'clock Hongkong was startled by a big explosion; it was too big for a birthday salute or for the customary gunfire which marks the entrance into the Harbour of a man-of-war of whatever nationality. When enquiries were made it was found that the explosion had emanated from the godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Ltd., where a fire had broken out some half-hour previously. The explosion attracted the attention of thousands of the residents on the Hongkong side and when smoke and flames were seen issuing from the Company's buildings, the Star Ferry launches were crowded to their utmost capacity by those desirous of being as near as possible to the scene of the disaster.

When the explosion occurred very few people knew that such a thing as a fire had taken place at the godowns. But, viewed from Hongkong, it was evident that a big fire was in progress. It appears that the outbreak occurred in a godown, No. 22, situated in Chater Road. When it was discovered the Fire Brigade were at once notified and it was not long before they were on the scene with engines and floaters under the charge of Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Deputy Captain of Police. Before the Brigade were able to bring their force to bear on the particular part of the godowns which was in flames, the fire had spread to Godown No. 21. This godown apparently was stored with merchandise and goods of the most inflammable character possible—kerosene, crackers, percussion-caps, candles, saltpetre, and opium being among the materials lodged there.

Shortly after three o'clock a tremendous explosion occurred in the godown which had been last involved. A great sheet of flame was thrown skywards some 300 feet high while voluminous clouds of smoke ascended from the building and enshrouded the locality in blinding mist. Bricks, and charred logs were flung about like so many pebbles, windows were shattered, and in some cases crockery standing on the tables of houses in the neighbourhood was broken by the shock. In Tsimshatsui Police Station several plates of glass were broken and china-ware was destroyed. All over Kowloon the shock was felt, and in Hongkong even there was distinct appreciation of the disturbance. When the Brigade got over to the other side they very soon set the engines to work finding willing helpers in the ranks of the Blue-jackets who had been sent from H. M. ships in Harbour to assist in fighting with the flames. The seamen, indeed, did yeoman service. Lieut Macdonald was in command.

From No. 22 the fire spread to No. 21 (as already stated) and it was then that the big explosion of the day occurred. When the report made itself heard one and all rushed for shelter, and luckily nearly everybody got away in time. Sergt. Perkins was one of those who were unfortunate enough to be caught by the falling debris; he had to be taken to hospital suffering from severe burning injuries to his foot; and it is to be hoped that this energetic and popular officer will be able at no

distant date to resume his duties with the Police and the Brigade.

As the fire progressed it was seen that the block of building between Chater Road and the Water Police Basin, on the northern side, was doomed; indeed, it seemed probable at one time that the coolie-houses to the extreme north of the godowns fronting Macdonnell Road would be involved. By dint of hard work on the part of the Brigade and the Bluejackets this was avoided. The walls of the godowns facing these houses were pulled down and further catastrophe was thus prevented.

When the fire got to a head thousands of Europeans and Chinese had congregated in the locality to watch the conflagration. So dense did the crowd become that Inspector Langley of Tsimshatsui Police Station had to call in the services of the Indian regiments to preserve order and regulate the crowd. Every now and then explosions occurred in the burning building and it was not until about half-past five that the last of these took place.

The godowns which were destroyed or damaged extend from Chater Road on the west to the Water Police Basin on the east. On the east side of the block the Bluejackets were particularly active: they got out many tons of material stored there and got in hoses to keep down the flames, which were forcing their way through from the other side. When the explosions occurred—which they did every half-hour or so—there was a general scurry on the part of the spectators for shelter, as bricks, broken woodwork, stones, and tiles were falling in all directions, not to mention that, whenever the word was passed for a stampede away from falling walls, the firemen who had been ordered to get away from the dangerous proximity turned their hoses promiscuously on friend and foe. It may be mentioned that as one Naval party was making its way to the scene of the fire the boat capsized and all were thrown into the water. They had, of course, to work away in their wet clothes and it would not have mattered after a few minutes' manipulation of the hoses whether they had come wet or dry, for they would have been wet through in a very little while.

A visit to the scene of the Kowloon fire on the following day was sufficient to show the seriousness of the disaster which had occurred. In the Police Basin to the east of the godowns that were destroyed great beams of wood were scattered about, having been blown into the air and thrown in some instances one hundred yards away. It was not until yesterday that the fire was ultimately got under. Even as late as last evening the buildings were still smouldering. Gangs of coolies were engaged in carrying out from the godowns debris consisting of matches, crackers, saltpetre, bottles of oil, tins of kerosene, opium and various kinds of acid. It appears that the three godowns which were destroyed were used for the storage of dangerous, inflammable goods. Insurance, it is said, covered them under the South British Company, and some dozen insurance companies are stated to be involved in liability for the goods stored in the godowns. No proper conception can be gathered of the extent of the damage; it is roughly estimated at from \$100,000 to \$130,000. During the progress of the fire the Chinese employees of the Company were rather intimidated by the occasional explosions that took place, and did not wait to help in the work of getting the flames under control. Too much credit cannot be given to the Fire Brigade and the Bluejackets who assisted them in fighting the fire.

Mr. H. Kopsch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in Tientsin has been transferred to Peking, relieving Mr. Hynd, who goes to Europe on leave of absence. Mr. Rowe relieves Mr. Kopsch in Tientsin.

Viceroy Yuan Shi-kai has recently presented to the Emperor and the Empress Dowager eight sumptuously fitted motor-cars, painted and upholstered in the Imperial yellow, elaborately carved, and heavily gilded. Two are larger than the others and they are of course for the use of the Emperor and the Empress Dowager, while the Empress and Imperial concubines have the smaller ones.

## HONGKONG'S HEALTH IN 1903.

The report of the Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer, on the health and sanitary condition of the Colony of Hongkong for 1903 is published in the *Gazette*. We make the following extracts:—

### POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Colony for 1903 was 325,631. There were 1,034 births and 6,185 deaths, 1,251 of which were from plague. The birth-rate was 3.17 per 1,000, as compared with 3.8 per 1,000 in 1902. The death-rate was 18.9 per 1,000, as compared with 21.7 in 1902. The following figures will show the comparison of the death-rate in the Chinese and Non-Chinese during the past two years:—

	1902.	1903.
Non-Chinese...	19.00 per 1,000	16.6 per 1,000
Chinese .....	21.93 "	19.1 "

### PREVALENCE OF SICKNESS

In the different seasons of the year, and general character as to the mildness or severity of the diseases prevailing.

Small-pox.—Sixty cases were notified, as compared with 57 in 1902. The greater majority of these, namely 53, occurred in the first five months of the year.

Cholera.—There was a remarkable immunity from cholera as compared with previous year, only 10 cases being notified, against 460 in 1902.

Plague.—This disease again occurred in an epidemic form, 1,415 cases being notified, as compared with 572 in 1902. As will be seen from the following table, the outbreak commenced early in the year; it attained its height in the month of May, and, as is usually the case, a marked decline occurred as soon as the mean temperature reached 82 deg. F.

The following table gives the number of cases reported in each month of the last two years:—

	1902.	1903.
January .....	1	4
February .....	1	29
March .....	2	115
April .....	27	272
May .....	157	515
June .....	194	343
July .....	131	85
August .....	50	32
September .....	2	9
October .....	2	5
November .....	1	4
December .....	4	2

The especial points of interest in connection with the 1904 outbreak have been:—

(1.) The earlier diagnosis of cases, which has been effected by a modification of Ross's method of examining microscopically blood-films adopted by Dr. Bell of the Government Civil Hospital. As a direct result of this there has been a higher percentage of recoveries, the cases having come under treatment earlier.

(2.) The discovery in May of plague-infected fowls, quail, duck, &c., in the markets of the Colony. Knowing as we do that the Chinese eat their poultry very slightly cooked, this may explain the way in which many of the peptic cases become infected, viz., through the gastrointestinal tract.

(3.) The fact that bugs, fleas, &c., including cockroaches, from infected houses have been found by the Government Bacteriologist to be plague-infected; thus body-vermin is evidently another means by which the disease is spread.

(4.) The success which has been attained by the internal administration of carbolic acid in large doses—12 grains every 2 hours—in the treatment of this disease.

It is to this and to the fact that cases have come for treatment earlier that the year's death-rate at Kennedy Town Hospital has been the lowest on record since 1894, viz., 60.6 per cent.

Last summer His Excellency Sir Henry Blake took over a block in the worst district of the city and endeavoured to stamp out plague by securing the cleanliness of the people and of the houses. A report has already been published on this experiment by the Colonial Office. One practical outcome has been that during the past winter we have secured the hearty co-operation of the people in the general cleansing of the Chinese houses, which is now an annual winter measure. This was done much more thoroughly and expeditiously than before and with a minimum of expense to the Government,



the Chinese evidently realising that it was to their interest that this measure should be well done.

**Rats.**—The number of rats caught during the past three years is as follows:—1901, 77,763; 1902, 117,839; 1903, 101,056. Those caught in 1903 have all been bacteriologically examined at the Public Mortuary, and 3,744 were found to be plague-infected. By far the greater number of these rats were collected in the first half of the year. Towards the end of June, from information received it became evident that a large number of rats were being imported into the Colony for the bonus. A fresh system was adopted, and although much fewer rats are now caught the greater number of these are caught in houses.

**Haffkine's Prophylactic.**—352 of the Plague Staff were inoculated, five afterwards developed plague, and two of these died. The inoculations were discontinued in June, as the Government Bacteriologist found the serum to be contaminated. Dr. Hunter intends making the serum locally next year.

**Enteric Fever.**—At no time was this disease epidemic. Only 44 cases occurred, as compared with 55 in 1902. Half of these occurred during the first four months of the year, when the water supply was intermittent. Fifteen of these cases were imported.

**Malarial Fever.**—The return of deaths from this class of diseases continues to show a decline, the number returned as having occurred amongst the Chinese being 283 in 1903, as against 393 in 1902, and 541 in 1901: a sure sign of the efficacy of the active anti-malarial measures which have been carried on.

**Beri-beri.**—There were fewer deaths from beri-beri last year, the number for the past three years, being:—1901, 377; 1902, 452; 1903, 397.

**Dengue.**—This disease was not so prevalent as in 1902, only 123 cases being admitted to hospital, as against 422 in the previous year. The epidemic commenced much later in the year, viz., in August, and was over in October.

The number of cases of infectious diseases, notified during the year 1903, was 1,553. There was a decided diminution in the number of cases of diphtheria, only 8 being notified in the year, as compared with 20 in 1902. All the cases of scarlet fever occurred in the military amongst those who had recently arrived from England.

#### GENERAL SANITARY CONDITION.

The diminution in the death-rate both amongst the non-Chinese and the Chinese tends to show that the sanitary condition of the Colony is improving. This is more marked as plague was much more prevalent in 1903 than in 1902. The total number of deaths was 988 less in 1903 than in 1902, notwithstanding that there were 669 more deaths from plague in 1903 than in the previous year. The Public Health and Buildings Bill came into force on the 21st February and will do much to further the better sanitary condition of the Colony. This Ordinance will not, however, produce an immediate effect, as many of its sections apply to houses hereafter erected, and others, such as the cubicle sections, are so far reaching in their application that they must of necessity be enforced gradually.

More immediate improvement will be effected by the resumption of the worst insanitary areas, which it is proposed to do by means of a Trust. It was found necessary to amend the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, so an amending Ordinance was passed by the legislature on the 14th December. It effects alterations in some of the definitions and in the cubicle and overcrowding sections so as to render the carrying them into effect more practicable. In this Ordinance also the Principal Civil Medical Officer was appointed President of the Sanitary Board and administrative head of the Sanitary Department.

#### VACCINATIONS.

5,348 vaccinations were performed during the year.

The Italian cruiser *Marco Polo* left for the Far East in March. It is reported that the French cruiser *Marseillaise* is also coming out, with reference to which a French service paper urges that the French home squadrons should be strengthened by the addition of the new cruisers now being completed before further warships are sent to the East.

## NOTES FROM THE BOTANIC GARDENS.

Perhaps the most attractive part of the New Gardens is the upper terrace. Here on the warmest days in summer the refreshing breeze from Victoria Gap seldom fails. From the shady seats among the palms charming views of the harbour can be seen, and behind it Taimoshan. Here, too, in consequence of the comparative retirement of the spot, birds and butterflies are at their best. Just now flocks of small wrens can be seen on any fine morning busily engaged upon the scarlet *Erythrina* flowers. What the little creatures find there to occupy them so closely it is hard at first to say. Upon close inspection they appeared to be pecking small holes in the base of each flower. This is probably to obtain the honey that abounds there; no insects could be found in any of the flowers examined.

Looking down through the trees one can still see the wonderfully vivid masses of red Azaleas, which the skill of the makers of the garden has provided in a continuous succession of flowerings from week to week.

The shrubs and trees above the path likewise deserve their share of attention. The curious Javan *Ostodes paniculata* is just about to expand its flowers which hang in numberless festoons from the bare part of the branches behind the leaves. *Gardenia globosa*, a South African shrub, now covered with large flowers, grows a little further along, with a species of *Stenocarpus*, also in full flower, near by.

## FOOCHOW.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Foochow, 2nd April.

#### LOCAL SUPPLIES.

The community here have been much exercised of late by a movement which made itself felt in Hongkong as well as here, namely, the exorbitant rise in the prices of our food-supplies. It was not so long ago that we submitted to an advance in the cent price of various commodities because of the fall in exchange from 2 to 1 1/2. This was quite reasonable at that time as the articles affected had to be purchased from European or American Markets. But now we are called upon to pay a further advance of some 10 to 20 per cent. on locally obtained articles on the ground that it is not possible for the local dealers to make sufficient profits at the old rates. What is the reason for such a plea being set up? We must confess we are unable to even guess. Have rents advanced? Have salaries to employees increased? Has the cost of meat on the whole gone up? As far as we are able to gather the answers to all these questions are distinct negatives. The only reason we can assign to the increase is that the two local Chinese dealers feel that they are now able to corner the market, dictate their own terms to the community as a body and add to their already plethoric purses. The crushed worm will turn and the two firms in question may find that they can be done without and that even the easy going 'foreign community' will object in a very real way to be driven to pay fancy prices for the bare necessities of existence. How is it that a community which is go-ahead enough to run such an excellent dairy as is run in Foochow should not have carried the idea a step further and have run a store by the community. Why is it that we should submit to being in the hands of Chinese dealers? Why should we run the numberless risks to health and even life by eating meat raised no one knows where, slaughtered when in a state open to the gravest suspicion and exposed to every contagious and infectious disease that may be floating round a filthy Chinese street?

#### AN ACCIDENT.

While out riding in Little Wood Road, Mr. G. Siemssen, the German Consul, was thrown and injured. Fortunately his injuries are not of a serious nature.

Messrs. Samuel, Samuel, and Co., of Yokohama, a firm of which Sir Marcus Samuel is a partner, have subscribed £1,000 to the Japanese Soldiers' and Sailors' Widows and Families Fund now being raised in London by a committee, of which Viscountess Hayashi is at the head.

## SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 11th April.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

#### THE CHEUNG KAM TIN V. C. EWENS CASE.

Creasy Ewens, solicitor, and trustee for the China Commercial Company, and the Company aforesaid, sued Cheung Kam Tin, comprador, for \$50,825, being balance due to Creasy Ewens and to the Company as beneficiaries by the defendant in respect of money lent to the defendant and interest thereon under a covenant whereby defendant promised to repay to Creasy Ewens as trustee the principal sum of \$70,000 with interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. C. Ewens, solicitor), appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton, solicitor), was for the defence.

Mr. Sharp stated that the defendant had consented to judgment, and the only question remaining was the question of costs. An order had already been made by his Lordship as to the general costs of the action. He submitted that the Company was entitled to the remaining costs.

His Lordship, after hearing Mr. Pollock entered judgment for the plaintiff with costs of and incidental to the amended writ and the costs of the day's hearing including counsels' fees; previous orders as to costs to stand.

There was then commenced the hearing of a cross action by Cheung Kam Tin against C. Ewens for \$94,382.04, being the difference between the value of 1,800,000 square feet of land and 100,472 square feet of land at 5 1/2 cents per square foot with costs of \$908 paid to the defendant as plaintiff's solicitor. In this case Mr. R. Harding, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, solicitors, instructed Mr. Sharp, under power of attorney from Mr. J. Scott Harston.

Mr. Pollock stated in opening the case that defendant was trustee for the China Commercial Company. Plaintiff employed him as a solicitor in connection with negotiations for the purchase of certain lands at Kowloon known as Farm Lot No. 13. The allegation was that defendant represented to the plaintiff that the ground was subject to a Crown lease of 75 years, failing to notify him that there was a Crown lease of only 15 years (held by Mr. Wei Yuk) over the property, terminating in 1907; and on the representations made to him by the defendant he purchased the land.

Defendant in his statement of defence denied that any misrepresentations had been made as to the conditions under which the land was held.

Evidence was taken and the case was afterwards adjourned.

Tuesday, 12th April.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

The hearing was continued in the cross-action by Cheung Kam Tin against C. Ewens, solicitor, for \$94,382.04, being the difference between the value of 1,800,000 square feet of land and 100,472 square feet of land at 5 1/2 cents per square foot with costs of \$908 paid to the defendant as plaintiff's solicitor.

Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. R. Harding, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, solicitors, acting under power of attorney from Mr. J. Scott Harston), represented the defendant.

The hearing of the case lasted all day, and in the evening an adjournment was made.



Thursday, 14th April.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

CHEUNG KAM TIN v. C. EWENS.

The hearing was completed in the cross-action by Cheung Kam Tin against C. Ewens, solicitor, for \$94,382.04, being the difference between the value of 1,800,000 square feet of land and 100,472 square feet of land at 5½ cents per square foot with costs of \$908 paid to the defendant as plaintiff's solicitor.

Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton, solicitor), appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. R. Harding, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, solicitors, acting under power of attorney from Mr. J. Scott Harston), represented the defendant.

His Lordship in delivering judgment said he was bound to say that by Mr. Ewens's bill which was sent in November and paid in March, 1902, he thought it was perfectly clear that Mr. Ewens did not charge for the agreement as he was acting for the vendor, therefore he did not think Mr. Ewens was solicitor for the plaintiff when the agreement was made. He did not believe any intelligent man would allow such an important thing as the stipulation regarding the 75 years' lease to be left out of the assignment. In the witness-box plaintiff had shown himself to be a very acute man; he was not unacquainted with the law, and this was an important matter which he would have strictly attended to. Mr. Rumjahn had said that he would have given three lacs for the land under such a lease at that time, because a boom was on in land and yet plaintiff tried to make out that he was going to get it for \$95,000. Plaintiff was so cautious in the witness-box that it had led his Lordship to believe that if there had been anything said about a 75 years' lease he would have had it put into the assignment. The assignment and the agreement, he thought, represented precisely what was intended by Mr. Ewens, and he did not believe the statement of the plaintiffs that there was an absolutely inconsistent and supplementary clause verbally arranged between them at another time. He did not believe for one moment that Mr. Ewens had said he would guarantee to get a 75 years' lease; it would have been an absurd thing for any solicitor to say. If he had said it, plaintiff would have insisted on having it put into the deed of assignment. Under the circumstances he found the plaintiffs had not proved their case, and he accordingly gave judgment for the defendant with costs. He did not think it was a case in which defendant had shown any fault or negligence. But he thought it was a case which showed that when one is dealing with property of a large value there should be a solicitor on each side.

The Court adjourned.

Friday, 15th April.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS SIR WM. M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

WARNING TO SOLICITORS.

On two occasions, in October and November last, the Appellate Court consisting of the Chief Justice (Sir William Goodman) and the Puisne Judge (Mr. Wise) had a case before them Kwok Chiu Hin against Kwok Sui Hing and others, the appeal having arisen out of a judgment of Mr. Justice Wise in relation to certain transactions of the Chinese firm known as Bismarck and Company. It was alleged that Mr. Justice Wise had, contrary to evidence, found as facts that a document sued upon had been altered after signature; that there was no condition that the document was not to be sued upon until after the accounts of the Port Arthur business had been gone into jointly by the appellant and by somebody on behalf of the respondents, and on other grounds of fact; also that his Lordship refused to allow an adjournment to allow of the bringing down of an important witness; and also on a point of law.

On the latter hearing the Chief Justice postponed the further hearing and his decision until a case then pending before the Original Jurisdiction should have been disposed of, which case was connected with the same series of actions.

To-day the appeal was down for hearing. Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton, solicitor), appeared for the appellant; and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors), appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Sharp in opening the case stated that the parties were formerly in partnership in the firm of Bismarck & Co., of a branch of which in Port Arthur appellant was in charge.

The Chief Justice said there was a matter he would like to clear up. The appellant if he wished to appeal must ask for leave to appeal. He could not find any motion for leave to appeal in the files; the motion was for leave to move by way of appeal.

Mr. Sharp put it that this notice of motion "by way of appeal" was irregular. There was no right of appeal except by the express conditions of Section 41 of the Summary Jurisdiction Ordinance, which required that first of all there must be a motion for leave to appeal.

The Chief Justice agreed that such motion must be actually made. The Court could not grant indulgences of this description.

Mr. Pollock pointed out that with regard to the right of appeal there was a special order made by Mr. Wise.

The Chief Justice—He could not give leave to appeal.

Mr. Sharp—No; he could not override the Ordinance.

The Chief Justice added that they should have applied for leave to appeal. When the application was made it was a motion "by way of appeal."

Mr. Pollock argued that the mere verbal difference of the two phrases did not put his client out of Court.

After further argument,

The Chief Justice said that the motion paper was wrong and the appeal must be dismissed with costs. He was sorry to have such cases—there had been several of the same kind previously—disposed of in this way, but if they once began to allow appeals on erroneous motion papers they would probably be asked to continue the practice. He could not conceive why such errors could be made (because the directions were very clear) unless some clerk in the solicitor's office was careless in drafting out the paper. The motion paper on which Mr. Pollock made the motion did not comply with Section 41 of the Summary Jurisdiction Ordinance. He was of opinion that under the circumstances these appeals "by way of appeal" must be dismissed with costs.

The Acting Puisne Judge concurred.

The Chief Justice before leaving the bench said he would like to make the observation that in view of the carelessness sometimes displayed in filing these motions the client might have suffered very much from the careless way in which the motion paper was filed, and it was very hard that the client should have to pay the costs owing to a technical mistake for which those who were advising him were responsible. If there was not more attention paid to the form in which these papers were filed, his learned brother and himself were of opinion that they would have to make the solicitors pay the costs out of their own pockets. In a case like this there could not have been any care shown in filing the paper. It was not complicated, and it only required a little care. However, in this case they would say nothing more about the matter, but it need not be surprising if at some future date they should have to do with it.

The Court adjourned.

The trade returns of the Straits Settlement for the quarter ended on the 31st December last have now been issued. Both imports and exports show a considerable decrease in dollar values amounting in all to nearly 16 million dollars—say 7 per cent. The decrease is in part due to the higher exchange rate of the dollar. Exports show a decrease also in sterling, but imports an increase to more than counterbalance. The total trade expressed in sterling shows a very slight increase.

## INTERESTING ENQUIRY AT HONGKONG.

## THE CAPABILITIES OF RATS.

Enquiry was held before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz into the circumstances of a fatal accident which occurred in the No. 1 Dry Dock of the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co.'s Hunghom establishment, on the 28th ult. Mr. H. W. Looker, solicitor, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker, and Deacon, appeared for the Dock Company. The s.s. *Tremont* was in dock at the time, and the wire ropes attached to the shores and made fast aboard the ship were let go. According to the evidence of an European shipwright the doctor who was to give the ship a clean bill of health for the United States authorities at Manila objected to ropes being fast on ships when he inspected them, as rats could thereby find a means of getting aboard, and the doctor was about to make an inspection aboard the *Tremont*. Witness personally did not think a rat could climb up 20 feet of half-inch wire rope. If the vessel did not comply with the wishes of the doctor, and was unable to get a clean certificate, she might have to undergo 15 days' quarantine at the other end. He gave orders to set up the wedges before letting go the ropes, yet some time after this had been done and the ropes removed one of the shores, perhaps working loose with the vibration caused by chipping hammers, fell down. In its fall it struck a stage, which it broke, and a man working on the stage fell to the bottom of the dock and got a fractured skull. An aged Chinaman who had been for many years an employee of the Dock Co. gave evidence that it had only been customary to sometimes let go these ropes during the past three years; before that they were never let go. A P.C. sworn said that when he visited the dock in question shortly after the accident the shore ropes had again been made fast.

Mr. Gompertz said he would represent to the Government that it would be impossible for such occurrences to take place if the ropes were not removed.

## THE CITY HALL.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

The annual meeting of the shareholders in and subscribers to the City Hall was held yesterday evening in the Library. Hon. C. W. Dickson presided, and there were also present Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Messrs. H. N. Mody, N. A. Siebs, B. Layton, H. W. Bird, and F. B. L. Bowley (secretary).

The report for the 18 months ending 31st December, 1903, was submitted as follows:—

The last annual meeting was held on the 26th day of February, 1903.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF.—There have been no changes in the Committee since the last meeting, and it now consists of Hon. C. W. Dickson, Chairman, Messrs. B. Layton (Hon. Treasurer), H. N. Mody, N. A. Siebs, and C. S. Sharp and Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C. Mr. Hursthouse acted as Secretary from 1st July, 1902, to 30th November, 1902, during Mr. Bowley's absence. The City Hall suffered a great loss in July, 1903, in the death of Mr. Lau A Yau, who was comrade at the City Hall for over thirty years.

THE STATE OF THE BUILDING.—The usual annual examination of the building was made by the architects, Messrs. Palmer and Turner, in October, 1903, and the floors of the S. George's and S. Andrew's Halls were found to be quite sound. Several defective beams in the roofs were renewed and other necessary repairs effected. The amount spent on ordinary repairs during the 18 months ending 31st December, 1903, was \$3032.46. The architects report that extensive repairs to the roofs will shortly be necessary. Two new urinals have been fixed, at a cost of \$1,164.50, and constitute a great sanitary improvement on the old-fashioned fittings which they have replaced.

THEATRE, &c.—During the 18 months ending 31st December, 1903, the Theatre was let to the Amateur Dramatic Club, Mr. Brough, Mr. Dallas, Pollard's Lilliputian and Comedy Companies, and many other minor companies and entertainers. Extensive improvements have been effected in the Theatre, including the remodelling of the Dress Circle, Electric Lighting of the Auditorium and adapting



the stage to the requirements of modern scenery, at a total cost of \$5,392.27. The tariff of rents was raised considerably from 1st January, 1903, in order to meet the fall in exchange, and the receipts show a more than corresponding increase.

**THE LIBRARY.**—110 books published in Hongkong were deposited in the Library: numerous newspapers and periodicals have been kindly presented by members of the Committee, by Mr. Barton, Mr. Bowley, Mr. H. E. Tomkins, the Hongkong Club, the proprietors of the local newspapers, and of the *Government Gazette*, and others. In December, 1902, the Hongkong Public Library was closed and its valuable collection of books was presented to the Lending Collection of the City Hall Library and amalgamated with it. The joint collection has been catalogued by the Secretary, and now contains about 2,800 volumes of modern literature. The number of visitors to the Library during the 18 months was 17,571 non-Chinese and 5,391 Chinese; the number of resident ticket-holders for the Lending Collection was 168 on 31st December, 1903, of whom 14 are Chinese. The free reading-room and lending collection are increasingly appreciated by many sections of the population.

**MUSEUM.**—There have been no important additions to the Museum, which suffers from the lack of scientific supervision and from climatic influences, but it is still much appreciated by Chinese residents and visitors. The Museum was visited by many thousands of Chinese and a large number of Europeans during the 18 months under review.

**ACCOUNTS.**—The balance in the hands of the Hon. Treasurer when the accounts for 1903 were closed was \$3,938.34. The reserve fund on fixed deposit in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has been increased by adding accrued interest and now amounts to \$15,167.71. The expenditure exceeded the ordinary receipts (excluding amount brought forward and interest on fixed deposit) by \$1,225.41; this excess is much more than accounted for by the improvements in the Theatre. It has been decided to close the accounts in future on 31st December instead of 30th June, and in order to effect this change the accounts cover a period of 18 months.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts have been circulated, and I propose to take them as read. It will be noticed that they cover a period of eighteen months, ending 31st December last. In previous years the report and accounts have been brought up to the 30th June, but it is proposed in future to close them at the end of each calendar year. The committee regret the death of the old comptroller Lau A. Yau, which occurred last summer; his many years' experience was invaluable to the organisers of entertainments, and it will be difficult to fill his place. It will be noticed that the tariff of rents for the theatre and halls was increased considerably in January, 1903, and the result has been an increase of revenue. On the other hand, an extensive scheme of improvement was taken in hand last year, and completed during the off season at a heavy expense. The theatre has been much improved by the re-modelling of the dress circle in accordance with suggestions made by Mr. Robert Brough, and by the extension of the electric light to the auditorium and the raising of the floor of the stalls; the lavatories, too, have been brought up to date, the total cost being over \$6,500. The collection of books presented by the Hongkong Subscription Library, as mentioned at the last annual meeting, has been amalgamated with the existing lending collection and catalogued. The combined collection constitute a free-lending library on a small scale, which is increasingly appreciated; the library is also much used as a reading-room. It is to be regretted that the terms of the respective trusts preclude the amalgamation of the old "City Library" collections with the newer books. It is practically impossible to improve the Museum, as there is no qualified naturalist or taxidermist on the staff, and, in the absence of any endowment, the committee are unable to engage one. The institution pays its way, but returns no interest on the original capital expended.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

This was all the business.

## KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING CO., LD.

### EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Kowloon Land and Building Co., Ltd., was held on the 9th inst. in the Company's office, Queen's Road. Mr. J. Goosmann presided and there were also present:—Messrs. W. H. Gaskell, T. H. Reid, A. Shelton Hooper, J. R. Michael, S. J. Michael, M. S. Northcote, T. F. Hough, J. C. Peter, and E. B. Shepherd.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said,—Gentlemen, you are met here to-day to consider three resolutions altering our articles of association, one resolution increasing the fee payable to Directors from \$150 to \$500 per annum, the other resolutions making it only necessary that the accounts should be audited by one instead of two Auditors. When the Company was started the amount of fees allowed to the directors was \$1,500, but at the suggestion of some of the shareholders the Articles were altered and the fees reduced to \$150, the reason then being that it was not a dividend paying concern, and the late Mr. H. J. Holmes in proposing the reduction said that if the Company were in a more flourishing condition he was perfectly sure the shareholders would not only be willing to pay the allowance provided for by the articles of association, but would thank the directors for their great care and trouble in connection with the affairs of the Company. The present shareholders now recognise this, and Mr. Michael, in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts at our last annual meeting of shareholders, said he wished the Company would consider the advisability of increasing the amount now payable to the directors. With regard to the second and third resolutions it is considered that the simplicity and shortness of the accounts do not warrant our employing two auditors. With these remarks which I think explain all you require to know I would ask some shareholder to propose the first resolution.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL proposed that in Article 81 the words "Five hundred dollars" shall be substituted for the words "One hundred and fifty dollars."

Mr. S. J. MICHAEL seconded, and the motion was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. J. C. PETER proposed that in Article 102 the words "an auditor" shall be substituted for the words "two auditors."

Mr. E. B. SHEPHERD seconded and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL moved, and Mr. M. S. NORTHCOTE seconded that in Article 108 the word "auditor" be substituted for the "auditors."

This was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance. A confirmatory meeting will be held, notice of which will appear in the newspapers.

### REVIEW.

*Central Asia and Tibet; Towards the Holy City of Lhasa.* By Dr. SVEN HEDIN. London: Hurst and Blackett, Ltd. 2 volumes.

Few travellers of modern times have excited more interest than Dr. Sven Hedin; and this for two reasons—first, the character and personal enthusiasm of the man, and secondly, the extreme value, historically and scientifically, of the work undertaken. If the new work have less of the romantic about it than his first journey it is that the scenes depicted in it have already been made more or less familiar by his previous explorations; but from a scientific point of view the filling in of the lacunæ left on his former journey have an even more permanent value as the final conclusions of a traveller capable of pronouncing a definite opinion.

As a contribution towards the physical geography of Central Asia, east of the Pamirs, Dr. Hedin's work stands without a rival, and if the present work has added comparatively little to our knowledge of the natural history and geology of the districts visited, it is to be remembered that he has brought back large collections, which will doubtless, when worked up by skilled experts, in a promised supplementary volume, largely increase our knowledge on both these subjects.

One of the main objects of Dr. Hedin's researches was to solve the important question of the drainage of Eastern Turkestan, and throw light on the baffling problem of Lake Lop—a question, we may add, which for twenty centuries has sought a satisfactory solution. It is no mean achievement not only to have closed the geographical problem, but to have explained the physical causes in operation which have conducted to bring about the present conditions. Historically, Lake Lop first appears in the pages of the Shi-Ki when the traveller Chang Kien describes it under the simple name of the "Salt Marsh." This was in the second century B.C. Its traditional history goes back many centuries further—prior indeed to the establishment of the Chinese State.

Myth and tradition, in that they do not consciously lie, are in some respects superior to history. True, they require to be judged by different canons. Their evidence is circumstantial, not direct, and herein lie both their strength and their weakness.

In the pages of the Han Shu we find Lop, under the name of the P'okch'ang, apparently for Bogahahr, more extensive than in modern times. It apparently stretched from the present Shara Lake some distance N.E. of Shachow to the Moslem Kara-Koshun, and it parted the two great routes from China to the Pamirs, which ran respectively along the flanks of the Tianshan, and the mountains called by modern geographers the Kwenlun. But Lop, even in the period of the former Han, was but a vestige of its former self. In the so-called "Tribute" of Yu of at least some centuries earlier we find it called the Yokshui, which modern Chinese render as "Weak Water," and assure us it was so weak that it could not support a feather. Yok is rather to be rendered as "dead" or "dying," and the disappearing habits which mark it to-day, and the absolute absence of definition along its shores, were then as conspicuous as to-day. At a still earlier date geology teaches us the lake was a vast inland sea; the last remains of a former Asiatic Mediterranean, and the survival of these ancient legends seems to testify to the contemporaneity of the last stage with the human occupation of Central Asia. In the alternative name by which the P'okch'ang Lake was known to the early Chinese of the "Salt Marsh" we have a clue to its modern appellation of Lop, which is really the rendering back into the old Aryan speech of these districts of the Chinese *Imch'ak i.e., Lavapa, i.e., the "Salt-Water."*

The country about the lake occupied at present by the Desert of Gobi was in the time of the Hans, and down at least to the fifth century, known as Kushi, or Gash. It is characteristic of the unalterable character of the population that the names still survive. During the Han period this district was fairly well peopled. It was, however, sadly wasted by the Hing Nu Turks, and we find the Emperor Wu Ti settling it with military colonists. Dr. Hedin is manifestly in error in giving, on the authority of Mr. Mimly, to the remains of a small town on what was once the site of the lake, the name of Leolan. Leolan originally represented the present site of Chenchen; in the course of time, with the change of pronunciation which marked the former Hans, the characters were found unsuitable, and new ones, with the value of Shen-shen, were introduced. The former Leolan does not appear later than the earlier Han. It is, of course, possible that Leolan may have been reintroduced later as the name of a post town on the southern road to Shen-shen, but the name in this new sense does not, so far as the writer is aware, occur in the histories.

The actual name of this district, Gash, certainly survives since the time of the Hans. It occurs in the name still given to one of the ruined cities visited by Dr. Hedin, and denominated by him Wash-shahri, but which is called Gas-Shari by Prejevalski. It also is to be found in the form Khash on the Chinese map as one of the lakes in the Lop district, and we apparently may trace it in the modern name of the lake, the Kara (black) Koshun. In the wandering nature of the lake, oscillating from north to south, is to be found the true explanation of the curious fact that, notwithstanding that it has no exit, it still remains fresh. It



has in fact never continued so long in any one locality as to acquire permanent salinity; and this in face of the fact that the entire subsoil of the district is saturated with salt.

Naturally, as the ultimate receptacle of the entire drainage of the Tarim system, we might expect the level of the Lop district to rise from century to century. Dr. Hedin's researches show that this has not been the case, the former bed of the lake, as indicated by the site of the town discovered by the traveller, having on the contrary been eroded several feet since the erection of the buildings on the site. This afforded the explanation of the oscillatory movements of the lake. As long as the muddy river flows into it the lake-bottom rises, while at the same time the former lake bed is eroded by the constant westerly gales which mark the winter and spring. As soon as by this double process the relative levels of the new and old beds have been reversed the lake again takes up its original position, and so oscillates between the Kurak and Altyn Taghs, without any permanent rise in the surface of the plain occurring.

In opposition to a certain eolian theory—that of Baron F. von Richthofen—which for a time became famous, we now learn that the surfaces of the loess-clad steppes of Northern China and Eastern Turkestan are undergoing rapid denudation by the combined action of air and water. Anyone who has had experience of Northern China, even so far east as Pechili and Shantung, where for six months in the year moving dust, the effect of the eolic erosion of the loess, forms an atmospheric pall over the land, can have no difficulty in recognising that, independent of the water-courses of these two provinces, the amount of soil carried yearly by the winds to subside in the Gulf of Pechili may be estimated by millions of tons.

Dr. Hedin's work of exploration, though the elucidation of the Lop Nor problem, which for so many ages has baffled research, might fairly have been considered as sufficient for one journey of exploration, by no means ended with his circuit of the entire lake depression of the Gobi. Setting out from Stockholm on Midsummer's Day 1899, he arrived at Kashgar on the 16th August. This fact alone emphasises the surprising political changes which have made what less than fifty years ago was reckoned in the case of Vambéry to have been an act of heroic devotion, a matter of plain every-day voyaging. Nor does our author claim any special adventure, beyond the fact of his having been the first to undertake it, in his voyage by boat down the Tarim, which represents in Eastern Turkestan the combined flow of the Oxus and Jaxartes in the West. Curiously enough, when he least expected it he was within measurable distance of the echoes of the great Boxer upheaval in North China, having been, whilst the Legations were besieged in Peking, within a couple of days' journey of the border fortress of Shachow in the extreme west of Kansu. Amongst the many Chinese officials whom he met in the New Dominion, and of many of whom he speaks in high terms, not one made the slightest allusion to the current of events in the East, of which they must have had direct information. His journey for the first twelve months had been confined to the hydrographic exploration of the great basin of Eastern Turkestan, and one in reading his pages knows not whether to admire the singleness of purpose which directed all his energies to this one end, or to regret that he did not now and then unbend himself to study as side-lights to the narrative the interesting objects which presented themselves in the natural history, the geology, and the archaeology of the hitherto unknown districts visited. The facts noted in the work will be, however, of the greater importance that they are mentioned incidentally and not as the outcome of any preconceived theories; and doubtless when his fuller notes are worked out will afford the basis for a scientific thesis of almost equal importance with the present work.

After spending his first year, almost to a day, in the hydrographic exploration of the great basin of the Tarim, on the 30th June, 1900, Dr. Hedin commenced his topographical exploration of the equally remarkable highland plateau of North-western Tibet. And here the narrative has in addition to its scientific value an interest from the light it throws on the political conditions of these regions, at pre-

sent occupying a considerable space in men's minds. Captains Wellby and Deasy, Messrs. Bonvalot and Littledale, and along their northern slopes the late Colonel Prejevalsky, as well as Dr. Hedin himself in his previous explorations, have thrown much light on these doubly inhospitable regions, where not only Nature assumes its most unfriendly aspect, but is aided by the exclusiveness of man. From ancient Parthia as far east as the Pacific coasts of Japan, the exclusion of their fellow men has ever been the political creed of Asiatic kingdoms. In the times of the Roman Empire Parthia offered an effectual barrier, which neither the Chinese Huns from the east, nor the Roman and Greek traders from the west, were able to surmount. The maritime commerce of those early days further east than the Gulf of Cutch and Ceylon at all events was in the hands of the Arabians of Sabaza, who equally threw obstacles in the way of "opening" the Far East. The removal of these obstacles has been the cherished work of the nineteenth century just elapsed, and it may be said that practically but one, that offered by Tibet, has survived the century.

Naturally a dependent of British India, which by the force of circumstances has become paramount in the ancient state of Kashmir the Government of Calcutta was well enough disposed to permit Lhasa to maintain its cherished exclusiveness. In the 17th century Lhasa had been so far conquered by China that it was compelled to receive a Chinese Resident, but this entailed little interference with its internal affairs, and with regard to its external, Lhasa was left to its own devices. Although, then, China was willing enough to negotiate with Great Britain a treaty for the opening of Tibet, when Lhasa refused to open the passes to British trade, the Chinese Government, willing enough to see England baulked, declared its inability to go further.

So matters might have rested without any very serious attempt to interfere with the *status quo*, but that Russia, ever ambitious of causing uneasiness amongst her neighbours, commenced to intrigue at Lhasa; the opportunity being taken of certain Buriat Lamas who owed spiritual allegiance to Lhasa visiting that city to suggest that in Russia they would find a friend, who for certain considerations would support them in their exclusion of England. The challenge thus thrown down the Indian Government found it necessary to take up, and the result has been the recent Younghusband Mission. At the same time, in the interests of science Dr. Sven Hedin was planning his second exploration in these wild regions. It is not necessary to point out that Dr. Hedin in no way sought to be involved in the political questions at issue, while at the same time he was not unnaturally ambitious of being the first European to enter the forbidden city. The Tsar openly took a personal interest in the scientific results of the journey, as did likewise King Oscar of Sweden and the Viceroy of India, himself an old explorer in Central Asia. The expedition into Tibet thus started under the most favourable auspices, whilst its leader took every opportunity to divest it of every political feature. With a people like the Tibetans, jealous to an extreme of all western influence whatever, the plea of Dr. Hedin that he was a Swede and had no leanings, Russian or English, did not seem consistent. Russia they knew, and England they knew, but of Sweden they had no knowledge whatever. All they recognised was that certain outsiders were desirous of entering the holy city of Lhasa, and that they were determined to prevent by any means within their power. Meanwhile Dr. Hedin had traversed the northern ranges as far as 34 degree N. Lat. Not being prepared to winter in the country he turned back, rejoined his caravan, and set out eastwards on a tour of exploration as far as the Sartang Mongols on the border of Tsaidam. Thence he started north, leaving to the right the Chinese frontier town of Shachow. He then returned westward, having crossed the whole of the Lake Lop desert, and finally crossing his former line explored more in detail the Kara Koshun, as the present extremity of the Lop lakes is locally called. It was on this expedition that he made a cursory examination of the ruins already spoken of. At last, on the 8th April, 1901, he arrived at the little town of

Charkheik, some 200 miles N.E. of Chenchen, where in pleasant quarters, he and his entire caravan stayed some six weeks recruiting after the long winter journeys, and preparing to make a final start for what was to prove the most interesting and most dangerous portion of the journey, the march through the centre of Tibet to the town of Leh, on the borders of Kashmir, to which this Western portion of Tibet proper forms an appanage.

The plan devised was to march with the entire caravan as far as the Tangla mountains in Lat. 33 degrees. There Dr. Hedin intended to halt the caravan, and taking one or two of his Cossacks, as well as a Lama whom he had induced to accompany him, and who followed him faithfully through all the adventures of this latter journey, to make a dash for Lhasa. The plan was well conceived; but, scantily populated as is the entire of northern Tibet, the hierarchy at Lhasa seemed to have been well informed of all the movements of the caravan. On arriving at the boundary of the Lhasa district they were met by the governor of the Nakkchu province with a high lama, who politely informed them that express orders had come from the Dalai Lama that they were to be escorted back under guard by the road they had come. The travellers did their best by trying to magnify the strength of the caravan, and throwing out hints of political complications to act on the fears of the governor, but in vain. The Tibetans had received reports of the progress of the caravan, and though they had no complaints to make of misconduct, still they had to carry out their instructions. It must be confessed that the governor proved himself an adept in diplomacy. He was perfectly open and straightforward, was willing to give and accept hospitality, and never uttered an uncomplimentary or unfriendly remark. Dr. Hedin's attempts to make him lose his temper even for an instant were quietly parried, so after a couple of days' useless discussion there was nothing to be done except yield to the *force majeure*, and accept the indignity of being marched out of the district under escort.

Whenever in passing from one province to another Dr. Hedin attempted to make more southing than his escort desired, the same tactics were repeated. Inconvenient and somewhat ignominious as this treatment seemed, it yet had its bright side. The caravan was provided with horses, yaks, and provisions, and indeed it is difficult to see how, had it not been for this opportune assistance, the long winter journey at heights never less than 13,000 and often as much as 17,000 feet over sea-level, could have been accomplished. Dr. Hedin avoided in this long journey the routes previously surveyed by Littledale and Bower, while Captain Deasy's explorations were left altogether to the north. Except where he crossed the actual steps of his predecessors his route survey, covering 16 degrees of longitude, is thus absolutely new—no mean undertaking when it is remembered that the greater part of the journey was accomplished at elevations higher than the summit of Mont Blanc.

When winter set in on this lofty plateau the sufferings of the caravan became aggravated, and four of the men who had started with Dr. Hedin succumbed to the climate and the wear and tear. The leader himself on more than one occasion found himself nearly at death's door, and only his indomitable pluck and resolution prevented the death roll from being vastly increased. Of thirty-nine camels that started from Chankhlik but nine arrived at their destination at Leh, and the loss of life amongst the horses and mules was much greater. As a test of physical endurance, independent of the important issues obtained, the journey is probably without precedent, yet notwithstanding the hardships and privations of the journey the daily observations and map-making were never for a single day interrupted, and so carefully were the instruments guarded that all arrived safe at the end of the journey.

Crossing the interminable ranges of Central Tibet one of the principal characteristics noted was the constant succession of gales, always from the west. These not only increased the difficulties and dangers of the journey a thousand-fold, but are instrumental in changing the surface of the land. Wind-erosion in fact here takes the place of water-denudation elsewhere. From the same cause the surface-levels



of the lakes are being annually reduced, so that old beach-lines were in most cases visible to a height of 500 feet, or even more, over the present lake-surfaces. This, of course, by reducing the superficial area of the water-surfaces has its concomitant result in increasing the aridity of the adjacent lands. This process has been going on ever since the first human occupation of Central Asia, and goes a long way to explain the gradual growth of the deserts, and the ruin of most of the opulent cities which once were widely diffused over the land.

At last, on the 16th December, 1901, when the caravan had been reduced to the direct straits, and had struggled almost against hope to the furthest limits of Tibet under the control of Lhasa, it was met by the relief caravan sent by orders of the Maharajah of Kashmir. "It had gone first to Mann, a village on the south side of the lake immediately opposite Serdseh; but hearing nothing of us there, it had turned back and tried the north side. As if by magic our position was completely altered. There stood twelve horses and thirty yaks entirely at our disposal, and there were sheep, flour, rice, dried fruits, milk, sugar, even corn for our animals. What more could we want? My caravan was on its very last legs, and this opportune help just saved it. Our long spell of privation and hardship was at an end. It was like a breath from the warm plains of India, a greeting from hospitable friends, a reminder, as it were, of home!"

It is not necessary to follow Dr. Hedin further in this review. At Calcutta he was awarded a splendid reception by Lord Curzon, and felt almost tempted to return to Europe by the sea-route via Bombay. With characteristic fidelity to the friends who had rendered his exploration possible, Dr. Hedin determined to return over the passes to Kashgar, whence the road to Stockholm was easy. Nowhere in the narrative does any political leaning to one side or other in the great international struggle between Russia and England being played out in these regions reach us from the great Swedish explorer, who may now take his stand with the great travellers of the world, Herodotus, Chang Kien, Marco Polo, and Speke, who each opened out for their country a new continent.

Dr. Hedin was attended from Kashgar by two Cossacks who during the latter portion of the journey were increased to four. Without their aid, it is only right to mention, the journey would have been impossible. The Cossacks personally were worthy specimens of that great arm of the Russian Empire which amidst evil and good report has ever been distinguished by fidelity to the Tsar.

Dr. Hedin does not forget to mention his gratitude for the faithful service and unflinching trust reposed in him by his humble attendants. It is probable that their attendance was interpreted by the Tibetans as indicating a political mission in the expedition, and so may have indirectly led to some misapprehensions when the Indian Government sought to meet a duly accredited envoy from Lhasa. The days of exclusion are, however, now practically past, and for good or evil Tibet can no longer continue to be the one exception in the mutual intercourse of the nations.

T. W. K.

### ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The following cards were returned at the monthly meeting held at the Happy Valley from the 9th to 9th April:—

#### CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Lieut. A. N. Gregory, R.N.	83	—	8	=	80
Mr. E. J. Grist	85	—	3	=	82
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	84	—	1	=	83
Mr. W. J. Gresson	98	—	14	=	84
Mr. J. Johnstone	90	—	5	=	85

#### 35 entries.

#### POOL.

Lieut. A. N. Gregory	88	—	8	=	80
Mr. E. J. Grist	85	—	3	=	82
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	84	—	1	=	83
Mr. J. S. Forrest	81	+	3	=	84
Mr. C. W. May	89	—	5	=	84
Mr. W. J. Gresson	98	—	14	=	84
Mr. J. Johnstone	90	—	5	=	85

#### 23 entries.

### ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

#### TWELFTH CLUB RACE.—COURSE NO. 19.

The 9th April opened with a dead calm and glassy sea, and it seemed as if the championship yachts would have another unfinished race to resail; but the wind gradually rose with the flood tide, and at the conclusion of the race it was blowing half a gale.

At gunfire the *Dione* and *Elspeth* got off with the lead, but *Vernon* gradually closed up, and these three kept together past the Trocas Rock and up to the Fairway Buoy. On the close haul up to the Trocas Rock the second time *Dione* was still leading. *Vernon* close to her; *Aileen* caught up *Elspeth*, and these two rounded the buoy together. However, in reaching and running down to the Fairway Buoy, the *Elspeth* again went ahead. For the heat home *Dione*, *Vernon*, and *Aileen* stood in to the Hongkong shore, but *Elspeth* tacked straight across to Stonecutter's Island, where there was smoother water. Half-way across the harbour the *Dione* and *Vernon*, which were close together, separated, the *Dione* passing under the stern of a steamer and standing over to the Yaumati shore, and *Vernon* making another tack towards Hongkong. This gave *Dione* the race, as from this point she gained 7 or 8 minutes on the *Vernon* by getting into a windward tide and smooth water on her last tack. The *Aileen* closed on the *Vernon* in the rough water, and the *Elspeth* was within 2 minutes of her also, but she gave up after fouling the *Aileen* near the finish.

The *Dione* by winning the last three races secures the second prize in this class, whether she re-sails the eleventh race or not. The times at the finish were:—

	H.	M.	S.
<i>Dione</i> .....	3	39	15
<i>Vernon</i> .....	3	47	12
<i>Aileen</i> .....	3	48	58
<i>Elspeth</i> .....	did not finish.		

and the marks for the season are:—

	H.	M.	S.
<i>Vernon</i> .....	3	47	12
<i>Dione</i> .....	3	39	15
<i>Aileen</i> .....	3	48	58
<i>Elspeth</i> .....	3	48	58

#### ONE-DESIGN CLASS.

The twelfth and last club race was sailed on the 10th inst. in a fine breeze from the east, and resulted in a win for *Colleen* over *Min* by 2 feet, after one of the closest races sailed this season, the two yachts never being more than 50 yards apart whilst in company. *Colleen*, *Bonito*, and *Min* took one reef down, but *Kathleen* and *Erica* carried full sail and were at times a trifle hard to steer in the puffs in consequence. A very level start was made. *Colleen* and *Min* crossing together, *Colleen* to windward, with the other three in close company. All set spinnakers to starboard except *Bonito*, and the boats kept close together till they gybed at Trocas Rocks Buoy. *Colleen* was round first, followed by *Min*, *Kathleen*, *Erica*, and *Bonito* in the order named. *Colleen* did not gybe immediately, but finding *Min* drawing up fast gybed and got away again. After running down the north side of the island all the yachts came together again in the fluky patch of wind and calm to leeward of the island. Here *Bonito* kept very close to the shore, and carrying the wind with her, drew ahead for a few seconds. However, *Colleen* was the first to feel the true wind, and with sheets slightly checked went off for the North Fairway Buoy. *Min* and *Erica* were the next to get the wind, and went off together, *Min* to windward, *Kathleen* and *Bonito* being slightly left. On the reach across *Colleen* kept ahead of *Min*, which managed to shake off *Erica*, whilst *Bonito* and *Kathleen* fell behind. *Colleen* luffed round the buoy thirty yards in front of *Min*, which in turn was about 1½ minutes in front of *Erica*. *Bonito* and *Kathleen* meanwhile were having a keen struggle, until on reaching the buoy *Kathleen* gave up, having sprung her mast. All the yachts were able to fetch the east end of Stonecutter's on the starboard tack, and *Colleen* got round in front of *Min*, with *Erica* and *Bonito* a long way astern. Spinnakers were once more set to port, and *Colleen* rounded the west end of the island just clear of *Min*. Taking in spinnakers they reached across to the

Fairway Buoy still in the same order. Rounding the buoy *Colleen* stood clear across to the Stonecutter's side, while *Min* elected to work up the centre of the harbour. *Erica* and *Bonito* chose the Hongkong shore, and gained somewhat, *Bonito* managing to cross *Erica* and get home in third place. The two leaders meanwhile came together again near the Star Ferry Wharf, *Min* shaking out her reef just before *Colleen* crossed her bows. From here on a desperate race ensued, *Min* sailing faster, trying hard to get clear of *Colleen* but being weather-bowed every time she tacked. Tack after tack was made by both boats, but *Colleen* to windward was able to hold her advantage to the end, and *Min* was never able to get her nose in front.

Times at the finish were:—

	H.	M.	S.
<i>Colleen</i> .....	3	22	45
<i>Min</i> .....	3	22	50
<i>Bonito</i> .....	3	27	—
<i>Erica</i> .....	3	28	20

#### HANDICAP CLASS.

In the handicap class *Gloria* got away to a good start, closely followed by *Chanticleer*, but they were passed on the reach to the Trocas Rocks Buoy, *Iris* rounding first, followed by *Alannah*, *Gloria*, *Chanticleer*, and *Doreen* in the order named. At the west end of Stonecutter's the boats ran into a calm under the lee of the shore, but *Iris* was first away, followed by *Chanticleer*, and standing up better to the strong reaching wind with reefed mainsails, the two leading boats kept their lead from *Alannah*, and the N. Fairway buoy was reached in the following order:—*Iris* (3 mins. ahead), *Chanticleer*, *Alannah*, *Gloria* (close together), *Doreen*. From this point the order remained the same throughout the race, *Iris* and *Chanticleer* working down the Kowloon shore in the beat home from N. Fairway buoy, and maintaining their lead from *Alannah*, who worked the Hongkong shore.

The times at the finish were as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
1. <i>Iris</i> .....	3	34	50
2. <i>Chanticleer</i> .....	3	38	15
3. <i>Alannah</i> .....	3	40	12
4. <i>Gloria</i> .....	3	44	12
5. <i>Doreen</i> .....	3	46	55

Corrected times:—

	H.	M.	S.
1. <i>Iris</i> .....	3	28	45
2. <i>Chanticleer</i> .....	3	30	0
3. <i>Doreen</i> .....	3	38	40
4. <i>Alannah</i> .....	3	40	12

The *Gloria* crossed the line before gunfire, and as she did not return to her recall signal was disqualified.

### HONGKONG'S ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The following statement of assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December, 1903, appear in the *Gazette*, over the signature of the Hon. L. A. M. Johnston, Acting Colonial Treasurer:—

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Balance in Bank .....		211,732.25	
Deposit in England at call .....		175,940.3	
Subsidiary coins .....		160,000.00	
Advances .....		47,697.64	
Suspense house service .....		2,580.21	
Profit, money order office .....		12,000.00	
Total assets * .....		\$69,950.40	
Balance .....		62,711.46	
Total .....		\$672,661.86	
LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Military contribution .....		29,070.4	
Deposits not available .....		443,626.33	
Refund of taxes .....		4,400.08	
Officers' remittances .....		261.98	
Money order remittances .....		16,165.33	
Transit charges, General Post Office .....		7,090.00	
Civil pensions .....		22,000.00	
Police pensions .....		15,000.00	
Public works .....		81,814.99	
Miscellaneous .....		16,021.27	
Balance overdrawn, Crown agents .....		37,901.42	
Total .....		\$672,661.86	

\* Not including arrears of revenue amounting to 121,268.00.



## WATER RETURN.

## LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST APRIL.

LEVEL.		1904.	
		Below overflow	Below overflow
Tytam .....	39 ft. 6½ in.	45 ft. 10 in.	
Pokfulam .....	36 ft. 0 in.	37 ft. 11 in.	
Wongneicheong	34 ft. 2 in.	41 ft. 4 in.	
STORAGE GALLONS.		1903.	1904.
Tytam .....	129,070,000	163,740,000	
Pokfulam .....	2,400,000	1,150,000	
Wongneicheong	2,319,000	506,000	
Total	133,789,000	165,396,000	

## CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH.

	1903.	1904.
Consumption ...	64,786,000	68,237,000 gallons
Estimated population .....	218,600	222,900
Consumption per head per day	9.6	9.9 gallon

Intermittent supply in force during the whole of March in both years.

## CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH.

	1903.	1904.
Consumption	13,043,000	12,915,000 gallons
Estimated population .....	61,000	66,850
Consumption per head per day	6.9	6.2 gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

P. L. H. JONES,  
Water Authority.

## THE JAPANESE AND RUSSIAN FORCES.

A correspondent writes as follows to the N.C. Daily News, under date Tokyo, 26th March:—

Owing to a very strict Press censorship as well as to the fact that the war correspondents in this city are greatly hampered by their complete ignorance of the language, customs, and back-stairs management of Japan, there has been hitherto a lack of information concerning the numerical strength and disposition of the Russian forces on Manchurian soil. At the beginning of hostilities the figures were approximately one hundred and fifty thousand, including all branches of the service. By 26th February there were twenty thousand more, mostly in the vicinity of Harbin. At the time of writing, however, the total Russian army in the Far East is about two hundred and ninety thousand, in round numbers. Two-thirds of this force are either between Moukden and Dalny, or concentrated around the former city, for it is felt, and with justice, that if Moukden falls into Japanese hands the Chinese will be greatly encouraged in their desire to make common cause with their plucky neighbours. Even as matters now stand, popular opinion is, according to the latest news received from Tientsin, wholly in favour of a coalition with Japan; and this is also the great desire of that energetic Viceroy, Yuan.

Of the above total Russian forces, it is authoritatively stated that nearly fifty thousand are Cossack cavalry—the one branch of the Russian service wherewith it would be folly for Japan to hope to compete successfully. For, as brave and as enthusiastic as are the troops of the Mikado, they have neither the hands nor yet the seats of the Cossacks, whose home is, practically, the saddle. In the matter of artillery, represented by a force of not less than twenty thousand Russians, the Japanese have very much less to fear. The new Shimose powder, adopted now throughout the Japanese army and navy, is an explosive of the most scientific type and of truly terrible power. It is only three years ago that this powder was adopted, after a series of the most thorough and painstaking experiments, Dr. Shimose, the inventor, patriotically making a free-will offering of his explosive to the Government. And

it is directly attributable to this magnificent powder that the *Varyag* and *Koreetz* had such short shrift at Chemulpo, and the bombardment of the Russian fleet and forts at Port Arthur has been so effective. The Russian gunners, however keen, cannot stand against the quick-firing Arisaka guns and the Shimose powder.

With regard to the infantry, say two hundred thousand strong, the weight and dogged persistence of the Russian troops are more than counterbalanced by the enthusiasm and *esprit de corps* on the part of the Japanese. In the first memorable brush of 26th February, the Japanese carried an important though small Russian outpost at the point of the bayonet. It is true that the Russians were taken completely by surprise, the attack being made an hour before dawn; still it has not hitherto been credited that a hand-to-hand encounter could be productive of such a result. In the Yalu valley time and again have similar skirmishes been reported, and in no instance have the Japanese had to fall back except when confronted by overwhelming numbers.

As for the Japanese armies, the original programme placed no more than twenty-five thousand on Korean soil, this force being deemed sufficiently strong to prevent a Russian invasion of the peninsula, or, at least, any advance southward from the Yalu. This "Army of Defence," as it was called, has since been strengthened by an additional fifteen thousand. Holding as do these forces a comparatively narrow neck of land, the Japanese authorities are confident that no further reinforcements will be required in that vicinity.

In case the troops on Manchurian soil are able to repulse the Russians effectively or drive them to the north, towards Harbin, this defensive army is to take the offensive, and proceed in the direction of Vladivostock, severing all connection between that port and Russia proper. The difficult work was not expected to be in Corea, hence the troops sent to Manchuria were of a finer grade and heavier metal. The first army sent to Manchuria was only sixty-five thousand strong, and consisted of men drawn principally from Sendai and the northern provinces, etc., in other words, of both horse and foot accustomed to a very rigorous winter. The Aomori contingent, in particular, are celebrated for their so-called "snow-manceuvring," and find little difficulty in being comfortable with the thermometer at zero. And in this connection it is worthy of remark that the troops sent to Manchuria in the war with China came almost without exception from the central provinces, where a very mild winter is the rule. None the less, as your readers will remember, they made a very good showing, and bore the almost arctic temperature of the Manchurian mid-winter months with exemplary fortitude. The footgear of these northern soldiers is instructive. Every man has at least three pair of wadded socks, fitting closely to thick cotton gaiters which go up, very much after the manner of puttees to the knee. The gaiters are worn outside the thick woollen trousers for additional warmth. The socks are, in accordance with time-honoured custom, digitated, and permit a thong to be passed between the big and second toes. By means of this thong, invariably one of plaited rice-straw, a thick straw-sandal is fastened to the foot; or else a sandal with a corrugated rubber sole, which gives an excellent foothold in climbing, especially in wet weather. The sandals are extremely light, inexpensive, and may be changed in less than forty seconds. Even Europeans have found such footgear the best possible in mountaineering.

A word in conclusion as to one of Count Katsura's excellent little economies. It will be remembered that, last year, when the bubonic plague made its appearance in one or two of the ports and some inland towns, a premium was paid for rats by the authorities, these noxious rodents being bought up by tens of thousands and at "popular prices." Every rat was subjected to expert microscopic examination, with the result that by far the majority were pronounced bacilli-free. And what did the Premier do but have these rats skinned, their pelts carefully prepared—and turned into ear-protectors for the troops, in anticipation of the coming campaign? Every Japanese soldier now has these indispensable adjuncts of his military toilet!

A feeling of perfect confidence prevails in the capital at the time of writing. Japan has the command of the sea, and firmly believes that she will drive the Russians back across the Amur.

## HONGKONG.

H.M.S. *Sirius* returned on the 13th inst. and proceeded to coal ship.

H.M.S. *Blenheim* has again left the harbour. H.M.S. *Humber* has arrived.

Mr. J. Whitall has been appointed a Lay member of the Church Body.

The Sherwood Foresters go to Singapore in October, when the West Kents, now at Colombo, come to Hongkong. The Manchesters will leave Singapore.

The appointment of Messrs. J. Reidie, L. E. Brett, F. Fisher, F. Allen, W. H. Woolley, W. Fisher, D. J. Mackenzie, H. J. W. Gidley, and H. J. Knight to carry out provisions of the Epidemic Prevention Byelaws is notified in the *Gazette*.

Mr. A. P. Zanetti has been recognised as Consul for Cuba in Hongkong, and Mr. H. Pauli as Deputy Vice-Consul for Sweden and Norway, while the King's *exequatur* to Mr. K. F. Hagberg to act as Consul-General for Sweden and Norway has been signed.

It was reported on the 13th inst. that on the previous night the house of Mr. Chau Tung Shang in Seymour Road, (adjoining Mr. Ho Tung's dwelling) had been broken into by burglars, who gained access by climbing up a storm-water pipe and got clear away with some \$1,000 worth of property.

The vegetable garden on the Caroline Road leading from Happy Valley to the Praya (of the condition of which as a breeding-place for mosquitoes a correspondent wrote to us some time ago) has now been vastly improved. In place of the broad pool of green-covered stagnant water that previously existed there is now a firm garden-plot with vegetables growing on it. The gardener cannot have suffered, for he has now more planting-area and quite a sufficiency in the way of water-supply.

It is alleged that the Disinfecting Station near No. 2 Police Station is washed out with water from the mains about twice a week. This is a great waste of our limited water supply, and, especially considering that there is sea-water about 50 yards away, there is no excuse for it. It is also said that water from the press-button fountain in the same vicinity is used for cleansing surface channels, while the Chinese who come to this place for water, for cooking purposes are warded off. This is a matter worthy of investigation by the D.P.W.

Between ten and eleven o'clock on the 13th inst. morning a long string of Chinese crackers suspended from the verandah of the East Asiatic Trading Co.'s premises, in Des Voeux Road, was fired off, making much noise and emitting a cloud of sulphurous smoke. This was a farewell to Mr. G. Harling, Manager of the East Asiatic Trading Co., and Vice-Consul for Sweden, who left for Europe yesterday, accompanied by his wife. Mr. John Goosman, who has been over 31 years in the Colony, and than whom there is no more popular member of the German community, also left by the *Hamburg*. His retirement is much regretted.

At about a quarter to eleven on Saturday morning a serious burning accident occurred at the Hongkong Hotel. An amah in the employ of Mrs. J. Hooper was on the verandah blowing glowing charcoal in a patent ironing-machine, warming up the affair to smooth down some linen. Not finding the metal heating as quickly as she would have liked, she went into the bedroom and secured a bottle of spirits-of-wine, kept for feeding a kettle-lamp. Returning to the verandah she withdrew the cork from the bottle and applied its mouth to the red charcoal. Almost immediately the spirits took fire, blue flame entering the bottle and causing an explosion. The foolish woman was soon literally ablaze from head to foot. Her screams attracted Mrs. Hooper, who taking in the situation in an instant, fetched a blanket and wrapped it about the woman. The amah was so severely burnt that it was found necessary to remove her to the Government Civil Hospital. Though she will probably recover in time, the scars received will most likely remain.



The failure of a German mail to arrive last week is due to the accident which occurred to the *Oldenburg* at Aden. The mails were transferred to the P. & O. steamer *Marmora*, and presumably they will not reach here till next Friday.

His Lordship Archbishop Guidi, the Papal Delegate to the Philippines, is expected to arrive here this afternoon by the steamer *Zafiro*, accompanied by his secretary. His Lordship is unwell, and is coming to Hongkong and Macao for the benefit of his health. During his stay here, he will be the guest of Monsignor Piazzoli at the Italian Mission house at Glenealy.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the following appointments have been made to the Committee for the Wongneichong and Queen's Recreation Grounds:—Capt. G. R. H. Nugent as Polo Club representative, vice H.E. Mr. F. H. May; Mr. R. Hancock as Cricket Club representative, vice Mr. E. A. Ram; and Mr. E. J. Grist as Golf Club representative, vice Mr. W. J. Saunders.

On the 11th inst. there took place at the Happy Valley the funeral of William Frank Bamsey, manager of the Hongkong and China Gas Company, Kowloon. Mr. Bamsey was at one time a well-known and popular member of the Hongkong Volunteer Force, in which he held the rank of Sergeant; he was also a member of the Victoria Recreation Club, where he enjoyed the deserved reputation of being a good sport and companion. He died on board the hospital-ship *Hygeia* from small-pox. Mr. Bamsey's father was formerly manager of the Gas Company at West Point, having served in that capacity for 28 years; he is presently in England. Mr. Bamsey leaves a widow and three young children. His funeral was attended by a large number of his friends and acquaintances.

An *ad fresco* fête in aid of the orphans and invalids of the Italian Convent was held in the compound of the Roman Catholic Cathedral on the 10th inst. from 9 to 11 p.m. There was a big concourse of people, and the business done at the various stalls was apparently very brisk. That the fête was successful financially we hope, as it was enjoyable to those that were there. We do not know the proceeds of the sale, but judging by the business done, a large sum was collected for this deserving institution, which has been dispensing charity in Hongkong for a great number of years. The band of the 110th Mahratta Light Infantry, by kind permission of Colonel Birdwood and the officers, was present and enlivened the proceedings by a select programme of music.

Fire broke out at No. 288, Queen's Road West at about 11 p.m. on the 14th inst. The fire brigade hurried to the scene, their promptness, however, being to no purpose as there was no water on the mains. The flames spread rapidly, a large crowd of spectators and the powerless fire brigade simply watching the fire. Before water commenced to spurt from the brass nozzles five houses, Nos. 282, 284, 286, 288, and 290, were ablaze. At the two outer ones, Nos. 282 and 290, the state of affairs was not so bad, the work of destruction being confined more-or-less to the roofs, but the other three were soon gutted. Luckily the block of buildings, comprising Nos. 284, 286, 288, and 290, was in some measure isolated. Curiously enough the conflagration spread from house No. 288 against the wind. The red glare in the sky attracted spectators from all directions, many Europeans being amongst the throng. By working hard with their hoses from both back and front—the rear, by the way, with its numerous bright red windows and showers of sparks, was the best sight—the brigade managed to secure control before midnight. Burning, though, continued well into the morning, the ruins still smouldering as we go to press. Fire broke out on the second floor of No. 288, which, as far as we can gather, was a Chinese Hotel. We understand that No. 290 is a paper store, 286 jewellery and silk and piece goods, and 282 jewelry. It is estimated that the fire caused damage to the extent of \$10,000 or so. House No. 288, where the fire broke out, was insured in the Commercial Union for \$80,000, and in the Tung On Fire Insurance Company for \$2,000. No. 290 was insured with Messrs. Lemaire & Co. for \$5,000, and 286 was also to some degree covered. In our account of yesterday we gave the locality of the fire, by accident, as Queen's Road East instead of Queen's Road West.

The German cruiser *Hansa*, with Rear-Admiral Holsendorf on board, arrived from Tsintau on the 14th, having left that port on the 9th inst. The United States cruiser *San Francisco*, Capt. Verg, arrived here yesterday for docking purposes. She left Cavite on the 11th.

The appointments are notified in the *Gazette* of Messrs. H. T. Jackman and A. Carter to discharge the duties of Sanitary Surveyor during the absence on leave of Mr. J. J. Bryan; and of Messrs. F. Ward, T. Abley, D. McHardy, and W. Cameron to be Inspectors under the Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the following are exempted from the operation of the Poison Bye-law in the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance:—Messrs. H. Humphreys, J. R. Capell, W. Davies, H. G. McKilligan, A. P. Nobbs, H. S. Spurge, H. G. Stevens, A. Stevenson, and W. G. Sutton.

It notified in the *Gazette* that on and after the 1st June "steps will be taken to abate nuisances arising by reason of the emission of black smoke from the funnels of steamships within the waters of Colony when the same is sent forth in such quantities as to come within the meaning of section 26 sub-section 12 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, No. 1 of 1903."

The mortality returns of the Colony for last January, now published in the *Gazette*, show a total of 340 deaths, 12 in the European and foreign community (9 civilians, 3 in the Army), and the rest Chinese. 102 deaths were due to chest-affections and 21 to malaria. The European civil death-rate was 10.4 per 1,000 per annum and the Chinese 12, which was also the figure for the whole civil population.

On Monday Mr. M. B. Leavitts Troubadours opened a short season in the City Hall. In the entertainment that they put up many of the "turns" were capitally done, while the Zancigs (Professor and Madame Zancig) gave a first-class display of thought-reading and hypnotism. The performance concluded with a comedy entitled "A Busy Day in a Theatrical Agency" which kept the audience in roars of laughter. The season closed on Saturday night.

The following returns of the average amount of banknotes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong during March are certified by the managers of the respective Banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.....	3,172,620	2,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation .....	13,758,861	8,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited .....	426,607	150,000
Total.....	\$17,358,088	10,150,000

We are informed that a marriage has been arranged, to take place on the 30th of April, between Mr. Charles Stewart Sharp, of Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., Unofficial Member of our Legislative Council in Hongkong, eldest surviving son of the late Dr. Hugh Sharp, M.R.C.S. of England, of Cullen, Banffshire, and Mrs. Burrows, widow of Mr. Henry Burrows, of Storkholme, Worksop, daughter of Mr. William Lenton, J.P., of Lime House, Oundle.

Kang Yu-Wei, the well-known Reform leader who has been a thorn in the flesh of the Chinese Government for many years past and who, it will be remembered, fled to Darjeeling in India to escape assassination has been expelled from Hongkong his last resort. During his stay here of three months or so the police had him under their close protection and it is necessarily a relief to them to have him away from the Colony. He left ostensibly for Japan.

At Messrs. Hughes & Hough's auction rooms on the 9th Inland Lot No. 631 was put up for sale. The lot was divided into two sections, the first comprising Nos. 62 and 64, First Street and Nos. 61 and 63, Second Street, the second section being Nos. 66 and 68, First Street and No. 65, Second Street. The property is held for the residue of a term of 999 years from 26th December, 1860, at a Crown rent of \$72.88. The first section produces \$146.50 per month, and the second section is let at \$138.50 per month. The first section was bought by Hing Li for \$13,160; the second by Hing Li and Sun Chan for \$10,650.

A dead Chinese plague victim was reported in a matshed at West Point on Friday. A recent enquiry at Canton elicited the reply that there is no plague there this year, but we learn that among the few cases reported here several of the victims have reached the Colony from Canton less than a month before their death.

Early on the 9th inst. fire broke out in the four-storied house No. 138, Wellington Street. The Fire Brigade turned out speedily with two engines and a float. A good supply of water was got from the mains, but not before the building was on fire from top to bottom. The flames spread to the top floor of No. 136 adjoining. This, however, the firemen managed to check, and the conflagration was confined to No. 138, which was gutted. On the ground floor was a silversmith's shop; the upper floors were family houses. There were no occupants on the second floor.

Mr. J. H. Kemp, Police Magistrate, has convicted newsboys of the *Hongkong Telegraph* and *China Mail* for hawking newspapers, and bound them over in personal bonds of \$10 to come up for judgment when called upon. From enquiries, we learn that in England newsboys do not come under the heading of "Hawkers," but they carry badges and are well under control. It will now be necessary for the Hongkong urchins to have hawkers' licences, on which their photographs will be pasted. For these they will be required to pay 50 cents a quarter. It has been alleged that newspaper boys here have become quite a nuisance, obstructing pedestrians when persistently offering their wares for sale. The vicinities of the Kowloon ferry landing, and Hongkong and King Edward Hotels are said to be localities where offences of this description are often to be seen. One big boy with several brothers, each of whom has a paper to sell, when competing with the numerous brothers or friends of other newspaper boys are said to be sometimes intolerable. The youngsters work on commission—three cents or three-and-a-half cents per copy.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Viceroy Yuan Shi-kai is very anxious to start a Red Cross Society in China, and the necessary regulations are to be drawn up shortly by Prince Ching, it is said.

An office boy in the Chartered Bank at Bangkok has been arrested on a charge of being implicated in the forgery of a cheque for 12,000 ticals.

The *N.-C. Daily News* has the following:—"Sunday School Teacher—Where do bad people go? Pupil (who has studied Police Court reports)—To Hongkong." This is a joke for Shanghai, but none for us. How long are the local authorities going to remain apathetic in the matter? There is no reason whatever why we should tolerate this imposition, not being the dust-bin of the Far East.

Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, Assistant Judge, H.B.M. Supreme Court, Shanghai, having gone home on a holiday, Mr. J. C. E. Douglas is taking up the duties of Acting Assistant Judge, and Mr. H. Phillips, lately Vice-Consul at Tientsin, takes Mr. Douglas's duties as Registrar, Police Magistrate, and Coroner. Mr. Bertram Giles, Assessor of the Mixed Court, is going to Canton as Vice-Consul, as we have already announced.

Owing to the similarity of the China Merchants' S. N. Co.'s house flag to the Japanese Mercantile flag—that of the C. M. S. N. Co. is a red flag with a yellow ball in the centre, while that of the latter is a white flag with a red ball in the centre—it has been decided by the Chinese Ministry of Commerce to make the following changes:—The China Merchants' flag will in the future be the usual square red flag with a yellow ball in the centre, but with the addition of two black dragons facing each other in the middle of the yellow ball (designated by the Chinese "Yellow Moon"). The foregoing flag is intended to distinguish the vessels of the China Merchants' S. N. Co. from Chinese trading vessels belonging to other owners who in the future are to fly a similar flag (red, with a yellow ball in the centre), but with only a single black dragon inside the yellow ball.



## COMMERCIAL.

## SILK.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son, in their Circular, dated 24th of March, state:—The home markets are weak. Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 11/6. Raw silk.—Very little business has been done in T'satles. The continued decline in Exchange has a demoralising effect on the market. Yellow Silks.—Continue to be in good demand at fair rates. Hand Filatures.—A few settlements in Market Chops are reported. The stock of Grant Reeled Filatures is small and Best Chops are very scarce. Steam Filatures.—A small business only to report; holders still continue to keep their prices above consumers' ideas. Tussah silk. A good business has been done at about usual prices. Waste silk.—Small lots of Gum Waste have changed hands at lower rates. Fine Gum 1 and 2 at 152½. White Coarse Gum 1.2.3 at 103. Szachuen Coarse 1.2.3 at 70. Tussah Waste 60,200 is firmly held at Tls. 29, supplies of this material being uncertain owing to the situation at Newchwang, and supplies on the spot small.

## SUGAR.

HONGKONG 15th April.—The market is weak and the prices are further declining.  
 Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.35 to \$8.40 pcls.  
 Do. " 2, White..... 7.45 to 7.50 "  
 Do. " 1, Brown..... 5.85 to 5.90 "  
 Do. " 2, Brown..... 5.70 to 5.75 "  
 Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.20 to 8.25 "  
 Do. " 2, White..... 7.35 to 7.40 "  
 Do. " 1, Brown..... 5.75 to 5.80 "  
 Do. " 2, Brown..... 5.60 to 5.65 "  
 Foochow Sugar Candy .....12.70 to 12.75 "  
 Shekloong " .....10.85 to 10.90 "

The Kobe Market Report of the 6th instant says:—Hongkong Refined.—No business to advise. Owing to the increased Consumption Tax which went into operation on the 1st inst., prices were well maintained. Deliveries, however, were less than anticipated by holders, and consequently sales could not be made at quotations. Beet.—In consequence of the higher Consumption Tax prices have slowly advanced; but there is no material demand from the country. Osaka Refined.—On the 2nd instant, 4,800 bags were sold at auction, realising prices that show an average decline of 35 sen from previous figures.

## RICE.

Hongkong 15th April.—The prices are further going downward, market being dull.  
 Saigon, Ordinary .....\$2.90 to \$2.95  
 " Round, good quality ..... 3.60 to 3.65  
 " Long ..... 3.75 to 3.80  
 Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ..... 3.30 to 3.35  
 " Garden, " No. 1 ..... 3.45 to 3.50  
 " White, ..... 4.10 to 4.15  
 " Fine Cargo ..... 4.30 to 4.35

## OPIUM.

15th April.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.  
 Malwa New .....\$1000 to \$1040 per picul.  
 Malwa Old .....\$1060 to \$1100 do.  
 Malwa Older .....\$1020 to \$1060 do.  
 Malwa V. Old .....\$1180 to \$1220 do.  
 Persian fine quality.....\$890 to — do.  
 Persian extra fine .....\$900 to — do.  
 Patna New .....\$1345 to — per chest.  
 Patna Old ..... — to — do.  
 Benares New.....\$1335 to — do.  
 Benares Old ..... — to — do.

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 25th March.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

## COTTON YARN—

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...\$ 90.00 to \$128.00  
 English—Nos. 16 to 24, ... 114.00 to 120.00  
 " 22 to 24, ... 120.00 to 128.00  
 " 28 to 32, ... 136.00 to 142.00  
 " 38 to 42, ... 155.00 to 170.00  
 Reported sales 1,500 bales.

## COTTON PIECE GOODS—

per piece  
 Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. .... 2.30 to 2.40  
 7 lbs. .... 2.50 to 2.80  
 8.4 lbs. .... 3.50 to 4.25  
 9 to 10 lbs. .... 4.30 to 5.50  
 White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.90 to 3.25  
 58 to 60 " 3.50 to 4.00  
 64 to 66 " 4.25 to 5.75  
 Fine ..... 6.00 to 8.50  
 Book-folds 5.00 to 8.00

Victoria Lawns—12 yards ... 0.85 to 1.75  
 T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. 2.30 to 2.80  
 7lbs. (32 " ), " 2.50 to 3.00  
 6lbs. (32 " ), Mexs. 2.50 to 3.00  
 7lbs. (32 " ), " 3.10 to 3.30  
 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) 3.30 to 4.05  
 Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs. } 4.75 to 7.30

## FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs. } 1.90 to 4.25

Brocades—Dyed ..... 0.14 to 0.15

## DAMASKS—

Chintzes—Assorted ..... 0.9 to 0.22

Velvets—Black, 22 in. .... 0.26 to 0.45

Velveteens—18 in. .... 0.18 to 0.22

per dozen

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.75 to 1.00

## WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops 0.75 to 2.50

German ..... 0.60 to 0.85

Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths 1.25 to 4.00

per piece

Long Ella—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs. 7.80 to 9.50

Assorted ..... 7.95 to 9.65

Camlets—Assorted ..... 13.00 to 35.00

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } 12.50 to 21.00

Assorted ..... }

Orleans—Plain, 31 in. .... 10.00 to —

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. .... 4.5 to 9.50

Fine quality ..... 1.25 to 1.85

## METALS—

per picul

Iron—Nail Rod ..... 4.30 to —

Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) 4.30 to —

Swedish Bar ..... 4.35 to —

Small Round Rod ..... 4.60 to —

Hoop ½ to 1½ in. .... 6.50 to —

Wire, 16/25 oz. .... 9.50 to —

Wire Rope, Old ..... 3.00 to —

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, 6th April.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

per picul  
 Cowhides, best selected ..... Tls. 33.50  
 Do. seconds ..... 29.00  
 Buffalo hides, best selected ..... 21.00  
 Goat skins, untanned (chiefly white colour), ..... 58.00  
 Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each) ..... 10.00  
 White China Grass (Wuchang and/or Poochi) ..... 11.00  
 White China Grass (Sinshan and/or Chayu) ..... 10.40  
 Green China Grass (Szechuen) ..... 12.00  
 Jute ..... 5.00  
 White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow) ..... 10.70  
 White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchew and/or Macheng) ..... 10.50  
 White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu) ..... 11.00  
 Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiyu) ..... 11.00  
 Animal Tallow ..... 9.50  
 Gallnuts (usual shape) ..... 19.00  
 Do. (Plum) do. .... 20.50  
 Tobacco, Tinchow ..... 120.00  
 Black Bristles ..... 20.00  
 Feathers (Grey and/or White Duck) ... 21.75  
 " " Wild Duck ..... 3.45  
 Turmeric ..... 4.70  
 Sesamum Seed ..... 7.90  
 Sesamum Seed Oil ..... 7.90  
 Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil ..... 7.90  
 Wood Oil, ..... 7.90  
 Tea Oil ..... 8.50

Per steamer *Preussen*, sailed on 30th March  
 For Suez:—8 cases tea. For Genoa:—202 bales raw silk, 1 case blackwood ware. For Buenos Ayres:—200 cases fans. For Antwerp:—88 rolls matting, 50 boxes bristles, 50 bales feathers, 9 cases cigars, 8 cases ginger, 2 cases chinaware. For Antwerp and Hamburg:—11 bales feathers. For Bremen:—127 rolls matting, 13 cases bamboo ware, 3 cases gongs, 3 cases palmleaf fans, 1 case fans. For Hamburg:—272 bales feathers, 94 boxes palmleaf fans, 39 cases effects, 14 cases chinaware, 13 cases cassia, 8 cases blackwood, ware, 6 cases camphorwood ware, 5 cases paper, 2 bales paper, 2 cases feathers, 1 bale canes, 1 case porcelain and silk. For London:—100 rolls matting

Per P. & O. steamer *Ballaarat*, sailed on 9th April. For Manchester:—406 bales waste silk. For London:—165 bales raw silk, 100 bales waste silk, 2 cases silk pgds., 252 rolls matting, 9 cases feathers, 4 cases cigars, 8 packages sundries. For Marseilles:—10 bales waste silk, 134 bales pierced cocoons, 492 bales raw silk, 4 rolls mats. For Lyons:—309 bales raw silk. For Milan:—40 bales raw silk. For Bergamo:—15 bales raw silk. For St. Chamond:—10 bales raw silk.

Per P. & O. steamer *Malacca*, sailed on 13th April. For London and/or Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For London:—56 bales feathers, 3 cases cigars, 388 bales canes, 10 cases chinaware, 4 cases woodware, 300 rolls matting, 32 cases cassia lignea, 120 boxes tea, 140 packages tea, 2 packages brassware, 25 packages personal effects, 8 packages sundries.

Per steamer *Machaon*, sailed on 13th April. For London:—350 cases soy, 300 cases ginger, 1,192 chests tea, 516 rolls mats, 40 packages sundries, 13 bales canes, 19 bales feathers, 847 bales hemp, 29 cases human hair, 200 cases ginger, 474 cases chinaware, 5 cases cigars, 30 cases bristles, 10 cases shells. For London and Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—200 bales waste silk. For Bremen:—42 bales rattan ware. For Hamburg:—167 bales feathers, 102 bales canes, 4 packages sundries, 11 cases shells, 50 cases staraniseed. For Amsterdam:—50 cases ginger, 289 rolls mats, 40 bales split bamboos. For London, Hamburg and Antwerp:—275 bales canes, 99 bales feathers.

## SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 15th April, 1904.—Enquiry has been active throughout the past week, and most of our principal stocks, notably Indos, Banks, and China Sugars, again show an improvement.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been booked at \$640 and \$645 cash and equivalent rates on time, and close in demand at \$645 with no sellers under \$650. The latest London quotation to hand is £63. Nationals are still enquired for at \$35½.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have further advanced to \$505 buyers after small sales at \$490 and \$495. China Traders are wanted at the improved rate of \$58. Cantons are firmer with buyers at \$177½. North Chinas and Yangtszes are unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's have advanced to \$287½ buyers. Chinas have sold and are still procurable at \$83.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been booked at \$27½, \$27½, and \$28, and close with further buyers. Indo-Chinas have been in active demand, and sales at from \$91 to \$94 cash, and at \$98 and \$99 for October delivery have been effected, the market closing with further cash buyers at \$93. China and Manilas have eased off, and are now procurable at \$21½. Douglases are slightly firmer with buyers at \$35½. Star Ferries are quiet at \$31 and \$18½ for the old and new issues respectively. Shell Transports have improved, and after sales at 19/- to 20/- are in further demand at 21/-.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have again improved, and sales at from \$120 to \$123 have been effected. At the close the market is somewhat weaker with small sellers at \$122. Luzons are unchanged at \$10 sellers.

MINING.—Punjoms have receded to 75 cents sellers. Raubs have sold at \$6, and it is probable that more shares could be obtained at the rate.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have continued steady during the period under review, and close with sales and further buyers at \$208. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have again advanced, and \$96 is now offered for a limited quantity of shares. New Amoy Docks are unchanged at \$37½ sellers. Farnhams after sales at Tls. 145 are in local demand at Tls. 147½.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have improved to \$147 with sales for the settlement delivery and small cash sellers at the rate. Kowloon Lands and West Points are neglected at last quotations. Hongkong Hotels have eased off and are on offer at \$132. Humphreys' Estates are firm with buyers at \$10.60 and \$2.60 for the old and new issues respectively. Shanghai Lands have sold locally at Tls. 107.

COTTON MILLS.—No business has come to our notice in this section, and quotations are unchanged.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements are easier with sellers at \$23. Watsons have sold and are wanted at \$14½. Electrics are steady at \$13 (old) and \$7 new, with sales reported at the rates. Fenwicks are procurable at \$47. Ices have receded to \$215 sellers. China Providents are steady at \$8.85 and Watkins at \$7, with probable buyers of the latter at quotation.



## Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
<b>Banks—</b>		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$645, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		L'don, £63.
A. Shares .....	28	\$35½, buyers
B. Shares .....	28	\$35½, buyers
Foun. Shares...	21	\$10.
<b>Insurance—</b>		
Union .....	\$100	\$505, buyers
China Traders .....	25	\$68, buyers
North China .....	25	Tls. 67½, sellers
Yangtze .....	\$60	\$135.
Canton .....	\$50	\$177½, buyers
Hongkong Fire .....	\$50	\$287½, buyers
China Fire .....	\$20	\$83, sellers
<b>Steamship Coys.—</b>		
H. Canton and M. ....	\$15	\$28½, buyers
Indo-China S. N. ....	210	\$93, buyers
China and Manila .....	\$50	\$21½, sellers
Douglas Steamship .....	\$50	\$35½, buyers
Star Ferry .....	\$10	\$31, sales
Shell Transport and		
Trading Co. ....	21	21/- buyers
Do. pref. shares .....	210	28.
<b>Refineries—</b>		
China Sugar .....	\$100	\$122, sellers
Luzon Sugar .....	\$100	\$10, sellers
<b>Mining—</b>		
Punjom .....	\$11	75 cts., sellers
Do. Preference .....	\$1	25 cents
Charbonnages .....	Fcs. 250	\$5.00.
Raubs .....	18/10d.	\$6, sales
<b>Docks, Etc.—</b>		
H. & W. Dock .....	\$50	\$206, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G. ....	\$50	\$96, buyers
New Amoy Dock .....	\$6½	\$37½, sellers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co. ....	Tls. 100	Tls. 147½, buyers
<b>Land and Building—</b>		
Hongkong Land Inv. ....	\$100	\$147.
Kowloon Land & B. ....	\$30	\$35.
West Point Building .....	\$50	\$53.
Hongkong Hotel .....	\$50	\$132, sellers
Humphreys Estate .....	\$10	\$10.60, buyers
S'hai Land Ins. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 50	\$24, sales & buy.
<b>Cotton Mills—</b>		
Ewo .....	Tls. 50	Tls. 33, sellers
International .....	Tls. 75	Tls. 25.
Laou Kung Mow .....	Tls. 100	Tls. 82½.
Soychee .....	Tls. 500	Tls. 170.
Hongkong .....	\$10	\$14½, sellers
Green Island Cement .....	\$10	\$23, sellers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd. ....	\$12	\$8.10, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S. ....	\$10	\$14½, buyers
Hongkong Electric .....	\$10	\$13, sales & buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas .....	\$5	\$7, sales
Hongkong Rope .....	210	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Rope .....	\$50	\$140, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ....	\$25	\$47, sellers
Hongkong Ice .....	\$25	\$215, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways .....	\$100	\$300.
Hk. Steam Water-		
Boat Co., Ltd. ....	\$10	\$15½, sellers
Dairy Farm .....	\$6	\$12½, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co. ....	\$10	\$37, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ....	12/6	\$5, sellers
United Asbestos .....	\$4	\$9, buyers
Do .....	\$10	\$210, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co. ....	\$5	\$1, sellers
China Prov. L. & M. ....	\$10	\$8.85, sellers
Watkins Ltd. ....	\$10	\$7, buyers
China Light & Power		
Co., Ltd. ....	\$10	\$5.
Powell, Ltd. ....	\$10	\$9½.
Shanghai and Hong-		
kong Dyeing and		
Cleaning Co., Ltd. ....	\$50	\$50.
Canton, Hongkong Ice		
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited. ....	\$10	\$10, nominal
Phippine Tobacco		
Trust Co., Ltd. ....	\$500	\$200.
	\$10	\$10, buyers

VERNON &amp; SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., in their Share Report for the week ending 7th April, state:—Owing to the Easter Holidays, which, embraced from the 1st to the 4th inst. the volume of business on the Exchange has been small. The principal stock dealt in during the resuming of business after holidays was S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., which shows a steady advance in price, and at closing the market is strong with cash buyers at Tls. 151, and buyers forward at rates in proportion to the cash rate. The Sterling T. T. on London to day is 2/4½. Banks—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks. No business reported, the market has risen in the South considerably for these shares, and is quoted strong with buyers at \$620 and no sellers under \$625.

Shares are enquired for locally. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—A considerable improvement has taken place in the rates for Indo-Chinas. The market opened on the 31st ulto. with sales at Tls. 66. On the 5th instant cash business was reported at Tls. 68 with sales for July at 71, and on the 6th, business is reported for July at 73/74. At closing the market is easier with sellers for forward delivery, and cash shares could be placed for the end of this month at 69. Shell Transport and Trading Co. Shares are wanted at 18/-. Shanghai Tugs. Ordinary shares have been placed at Tls. 47. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co. The market opened on the 30th ulto. with cash sales at Tls. 143 and 144, and sales for April at Tls. 143. For July at Tls. 147/146½/147. On the 31st cash shares fetched 144/145; 147 June; 149/150 July. On the 5th at 148; 149 cash and 152½ June; 152/153/154 July. On the 6th 150 cash; 151 April; 155/154 June. The market closes steadily with buyers for forward delivery as the last rates. Sugars.—A transaction is reported in Perak Sugars at Tls. 50. Mining.—Only business reported is in Weihaiwei Golds at \$17½. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 107. Industrial.—Cotton Stocks still continue neglected.—Shanghai Gas Shares. There is an enquiry for shares at present quotations.—China Flours have been placed at Tls. 60; Paper and Pulp at Tls. 103.—Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. An account of the Directors' Report passed at a meeting held on the 4th inst. can be seen in the N. C. Daily News of the 5th inst. Only a limited business has been done in these shares during the week. The market opened at Tls. 285 and transactions were reported at Tls. 300 and 295 June. On the 5th a transaction was reported at Tls. 290 cash and a sale at 303 for July. On the 6th business was done at 290 cash and a sale at 300 June. At closing there are buyers for cash and the end of this month, with sellers forward delivery at current rates.—Sumatras have been placed at Tls. 50. Stores and Hotels.—Centrals have been placed at \$20. Hall and Holtz at \$30; Astors at \$30. Moutrie & Co.—An interim dividend of 4 per cent. was paid on the 7th inst. The transfer books will be closed from the 7th to the 11th. Miscellaneous.—The only business reported is in Telephones at Tls. 67. Loans and Debentures.—No business reported. Sellers at current rates.

## EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, 18th April.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer .....	1/8½
Bank Bills, on demand .....	1/8½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight .....	1/9
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight .....	1/9½
Credits, at 4 months' sight .....	1/9½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight .....	1/9½
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand .....	21½
Credits 4 months' sight .....	22½
ON GERMANY.—On demand .....	17½
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand .....	42½
Credits, 60 days' sight .....	43½
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer .....	12½
Bank, on demand .....	130
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer .....	129½
Bank, on demand .....	130
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight .....	72½
Private, 30 days' sight .....	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand .....	85½
ON MANILA.—On demand .....	Nom.
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand .....	Nom.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand .....	105
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand .....	1½ p.c.p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand .....	1½ p.c.p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand .....	63
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate .....	\$11.35
GOLD LEAF, 130 fine, per tael .....	\$59.80
BAR SILVER, per oz. ....	24½

## FREIGHTS.

N. W. CHWANG, April 2nd.—Messrs. Bandinel & Company, in their Market Report, state:—Seventeen steamers are loading and one may leave to-morrow; the river however is still full of ice at some stages of the tide. There is enough cargo here to load all vessels now in port and future business for thirteen to eighteen, but this will depend on the freedom or otherwise of river and cart traffic. Stocks of beans at the principal up-country depots amount to about 3,712.05 piculs.

Per Conference Steamers. To London and Northern Continental ports:—Tea 52/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet. General cargo 52/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet. Seeds 47/6 per ton of 20 cwt. To Marseilles and Havre:—General 48/- net

per ton of 40 cubic feet. Seeds 47/6 ne per ton of 20 cwt. To New York (Over land):—Tea 1½ G\$ cents per lb. gross. To New York, via Suez:—35/- per ton of 40 cubic feet. To Shanghai:—Tea, Tels 1.80 per ton of 13 half-chests. To Shanghai:—General, Tels 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

April—	
ARRIVALS.	
8, Blenheim, British cr., from Mirs Bay.	
8, Carl Menzell, Ger. str., from Singapore.	
8, Charterhouse, British str., from Singapore.	
8, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.	
8, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Tamsui.	
8, Goodwin, British str., from Moji.	
8, Malta, British str., from Bombay.	
8, Melita, French str., from Saigon.	
8, Shrewsbury, British str., from Rangoon.	
9, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
9, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.	
9, Jaseu, British str., from Liverpool.	
9, Maria, Italian str., from Freemantle.	
9, Rein, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.	
9, Taksang, British str., from Tientsin.	
9, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.	
9, Triumph, German str., from Swatow.	
10, Aobilles, British str., from Liverpool.	
10, Anhui, British str., from Australia.	
10, Anchenorag, British str., from Westport.	
10, Chunsang, British str., from Sourabaya.	
10, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.	
10, 'ue, French str., from Kwangchow.	
10, Ovid, British str., from Kutchinotzu.	
10, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.	
11, Heathburn, British str., from Moji.	
11, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.	
11, Humber, British storeship, from Shanghai.	
11, Ismaila, British str., from Rangoon.	
11, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
11, Machaon, British str., from Shanghai.	
11, Pelayo, British str., from Pulo Sembilan.	
11, Sungkiang, British str., from Iloilo.	
11, Yuenang, British str., from Manila.	
12, Bjorn, Norwegian str., from Cebu.	
12, British Trader, British str., from Barry.	
12, Chwanshan, British str., from Saigon.	
12, Claverley, British str., from New York.	
12, Emps. of India, British str., from Vancouver.	
12, Gregory Apcar, British str., from Calcutta.	
12, Hamburg, German str., from Shanghai.	
12, Ha gohow, British str., from Shanghai.	
12, Hopsang, British str., from Saigon.	
12, Kowloon, German str., from Chinkiang.	
12, Malacca, British str., from Shanghai.	
12, Queen Louise, British str., from Cardiff.	
12, Taishan, British str., from Saigon.	
13, Briggavia, German str., from Yokohama.	
13, Cyrus, British str., from Rangoon.	
13, Ferndene, British str., from Rangoon.	
13, Glenshiel, British str., from London.	
13, Hoihao, French str., from Haiphong.	
13, Idomeneus, British str., from Amoy.	
13, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.	
13, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.	
13, Phra C. Klap, Ger. str., from Bangkok.	
13, Satsuma, British str., from New York.	
13, Silvia, German str., from Colombo.	
13, Yiksang, British str., from Hongay.	
14, Binh Thuan, French str., from Iloilo.	
14, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.	
14, Hansa, German cruiser, from Tientsin.	
14, Hong Bee, British str., from Singapore.	
14, Kelvin, British str., from London.	
14, M. Struve, German str., from Tamsui.	
14, Paklat, German str., from Bangkok.	
14, Petrarch, German str., from Saigon.	
14, Pronto, German str., from Newchwang.	
14, Rainbow, U.S. cruiser, from Cavite.	
14, San Francisco, U.S. cruiser, from Cavite.	
14, Thales, British str., from Swatow.	
14, Tsinan, British str., from Australia.	
14, Yunnan, British str., from Newchwang.	
15, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.	
15, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.	
15, Mathilde, German str., from Hoihow.	
15, Meridian, British str., from Penarth.	
15, Phran ng, German str., from Bangkok.	
15, Tamaise, French str., from Haiphong.	
16, Cheangchow, British str., from Singapore.	
16, Clavering, British str., from S. Francisco.	
16, Fausang, British str., from Saigon.	
16, Germania, German str., from Moji.	
16, Kaifong, British str., from Manila.	
16, Kwangse, British str., from Newchwang.	



16, Onsang, British str., from Samarang.  
16, Store Nordiske, Dan. str., from Shanghai.  
16, Tweeddale, British str., from Moji.  
16, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.

#### DEPARTURES.

April—  
8, Alacritty, British d.-v., for Mirs Bay.  
8, Artemisia, German str., for Yokohama.  
8, Australian, British str., for Australia.  
8, Chihli, British str., for Tientsin.  
8, China, German str., for Saigon.  
8, China, British str., for Australia.  
8, Fooshing, British str., for Singapore.  
8, Hailoong, British str., for Tamsui.  
8, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.  
8, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
8, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.  
8, Petchaburi, German str., for Swatow.  
8, Pitsanulok, German str., for Bangkok.  
8, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Hongay.  
8, Wuohang, British str., for Iloilo.  
9, Ardondare, British str., for Moji.  
9, Ballarat, British str., for Europe.  
9, Benlawers, British str., for Nagasaki.  
9, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.  
9, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.  
9, Promethus, Norw. str., for Bangkok.  
9, Shrewsbury, British str., for Yokohama.  
9, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.  
10, Artemisia, German str., for Yokohama.  
10, Blenheim, British cruiser, for Singapore.  
10, Brunhilde, German str., for Kobe.  
10, Charterhouse, British str., for Amoy.  
10, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Amoy.  
10, Johanne, German str., for Hoihow.  
10, Malta, British str., for Shanghai.  
10, Nanyang, German str., for Newchwang.  
10, Tungahing, British str., for Ningpo.  
10, Tjimahi, Dutch str., for Macassar.  
10, Ujina, British str., for Singapore.  
11, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., for Swatow.  
11, Elze, German str., for Kwangchauwan.  
11, Sirius, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.  
11, Thales, British str., for Swatow.  
11, Themis, Norwegian str., for Kobe.  
11, Woosung, British str., for Canton.  
12, Achilles, British str., for Shanghai.  
12, An Pho, British str., for Amoy.  
12, Carl Menzell, German str., for Taintau.  
12, Edendale, British str., for Saigon.  
12, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.  
12, Hugin, British str., for Kobe.  
12, Ismaila, British str., for Kobe.  
12, Itaura, British str., for Rangoon.  
12, Jaishan, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
12, Taksang, British str., for Canton.  
12, Yansang, British str., for Manila.  
13, Cyrus, British str., for Yokohama.  
13, Capri, Italian str., for Bombay.  
13, Ferndene, British str., for Yokohama.  
13, Hamburg, German str., for Europe.  
13, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.  
13, Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.  
13, Machaon, British str., for London.  
13, Malacca, British str., for London.  
13, Mausang, British str., for Kudat.  
13, Pelayo, British str., for Swatow.  
13, Triumph, German str., for Swatow.  
13, Ujintau, German str., for Bangkok.  
13, Ujina, British str., for Cape St. James.  
13, Vale of Doon, Sarawak bark, for Rajang.  
14, Brigavia, German str., for Hamburg.  
14, Chiyen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
14, Chownai, German str., for Bangkok.  
14, Dagmar, German str., for Swatow.  
14, Goodwin, British str., for Kobe.  
14, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.  
14, Melita, French str., for Kwangchauwan.  
14, Nicomedia, German str., for Portland.  
14, Ovid, British str., for Kutchinotzu.  
14, Rein, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.  
14, Satsuma, British str., for Shanghai.  
14, Silvia, German str., for Kiantochon.  
15, Anhui, British str., for Shanghai.  
15, Bjorn, Norwegian str., for Kobe.  
15, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.  
15, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.  
15, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.  
15, Idomenus, British str., for London.  
15, Sirius, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.  
15, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.  
15, Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.  
15, Thales, British str., for Swatow.  
15, Yunan, British str., for Canton.  
16, Cragwald, German str., for Bangkok.  
16, Doric, British str., for Shanghai.  
16, Hoihao, French str., for Pakhoi.

16, Hongbee, British str., for Amoy.  
16, Meridian, British str., for Kobe.  
16, Rubi, British str., for Manila.  
16, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Canton.  
16, Wosang, British str., for Shanghai.

#### PASSENGER LIST.

##### ARRIVED.

Per *Athenian*, from Vancouver (B.C.) for Hongkong. Lt. Col. C. N. Watts, Miss Kabayachi, Messrs. W. A. Lamont, W. E. Brady, Marshall, and I. C. Dow.

Per *Malta*, from Hongkong, from London, Lieut. Mrs. and Miss Embledon and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Ward, Lieut. R. F. A. Parton, Messrs. E. B. Smith, Chalmers, A. F. Davis, H. J. Anderson, and J. Cole, Misses Quilch (2); from Marseilles, Mr. Mrs. and 2 Misses Jacques, Comdr. Nelson Ward, Engr.-Comdr. Bevan, Messrs. V. A. Grow and J. D. McGarim; from Port Said, Mrs. M. C. Osgood; from Calcutta, Major Crawford and Col. Tullock; from Colombo, Rev. and Mrs. K. D. Osborne, Dr. and 2 Misses Longstaffe; from Singapore, Mrs. and Miss Edmunds, Mr. and Mrs. Leavitt, Prof. and Mrs. Zancig, Prof. and Mrs. Lloydale, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, Dr. Pairs Matt, Messrs. Van B. Tollenhovers, Lansdown, H. Johnson, and T. Herikawa; for Manila, from London, M. S. F. L. Lawrence and Mrs. Fowler; for Shanghai, from London, Mrs. Richards and 2 children, Messrs. K. B. Brown, W. H. Sharp, and Lewis Plummer; from Marseilles, Capt. and Mrs. Whittle, Messrs. R. S. Turner, Sepser, Heath, W. H. Dainty, and Dr. March; from Port Said, Miss Edith Brown; from Bombay, Lieut. and Mrs. G. A. Hughes; from Colombo, Mr. J. M. Labb; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. Olivan, W. Fisher, and S. McRami; for Kobe, from Brindisi, Mr. Tsacheja; from Singapore, Mr. Y. Angullie.

Per *Malacca*, from Shanghai for London, Mrs. Cubitt, three children and amah, Mrs. J. Mossops, Mrs. Tours, two children, and amah, Mrs. Berner, Misses M. M. Clarke and M. E. Clarke, Master R. A. Brand and Mr. L. M. C. Wedemeyer; for Hongkong, Messrs. W. J. Clarke and W. A. Railton.

Per *Hamburg*, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Betts and family, Mr. and Mrs. Sharpe, Mr. and Mrs. Collbran, Mr. and Mrs. Baur and family and Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Veigt, Liegtel, Southcott, Miss Blumenfeld, Messrs. Sudgens, Hasche, Albertson and Goecke, Mr. and Mrs. Mandl, Mrs. Turner, Miss Berninger, Messrs. Figge, Olcott, Heckscher, de Souza, Kirchhoff, Wood, Kakajewalla, C. Rath, and Gilson; from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Barneo and child, Mrs. Mercoulou, Misses M. Morin and Bollmann, Mrs. Tamura, Messrs. Maitland, Kofod, Teisensohn, and Tokumaza; from Kobe, Capt. Wolff, Messrs. Czarnecki, Tilmann, Reppich, Bartling, Schlaffke, Nagott, Grumvald, Alexander, Briggs, and Rigby; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Oyama, Messrs. Foshiko and Watanabe.

Per *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, Capt. Folger, Lieut. J. A. Edgell, Dr. W. F. Dunlop, Messrs. J. D. Wainwright, G. M. McDunhurst, P. McFarlane, and A. S. Piers; from Kobe, Mr. J. G. Hamilton; from Nagasaki, Mr. J. Harvie; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Pins, Messrs. J. R. Twentyman and H. R. Macaulay.

##### DEPARTED.

Per *Australian*, for Australia, &c., Mrs. Adams, Mrs. and Miss Chue, Dr. Mrs. and Miss Hocken, Misses Jones, MacGillivray, and McCulloch, Rev. J. R. Martins, Messrs. R. S. Barretto, C. R. Gilbertson, F. W. Grant, W. Laurie, R. Powell, and H. S. Rosenthal.

Per *Chingtu*, for Australia, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Horne, Mrs. B. Q. Murrah and infant, Mrs. W. F. Cullen, Mrs. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. J. Shum, Mrs. D. See and 2 children, Messrs. M. B. Woolcombe, T. H. Allan, F. W. Richardson, E. Wellmann, F. Kulka, W. S. Blick, W. E. Bowerman, H. B. R. Meyer, H. Allan, T. Ritchie, Rev. W. C. Godson, Capt. Hunter, and Sergt. Head.

Per *Ballarat*, from Hongkong, for Bombay, Messrs. D. S. Doshi and B. D. Tata; for Marseilles, Mrs. D. J. Davies; for London, Surgeon and Mrs. Norris, Consul General and Mrs. Leon Guislain, Messrs. Roger and Paul Guislain and 2 children, Comdrs. F. W. Dean and E. B. Kiddle, R.N., Lieut. Disney, R.G.A., Mid.

Ernest W. Kirkby, Sergts. Brazil, Brown, Cashman, Davitt, Earner, Lenaghan, and McKenzie, Messrs. Chas. Freeman, R. G. Scuggins, R.N., F. G. Langford, Edward Wyon, J. Mitchell, and J. S. Plant; from Shanghai, for Bombay, Mr. Gopee Chande; for Marseilles, Mrs. Carrady, Dr. Langford, and Mr. H. Vossy Bourbon; for London, Mr. and Mrs. T. Johns and child, Bishop, Mrs. and Miss Cassels and 5 children, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Brown, Mrs. D. C. Lloyd Williams and 4 children, Mrs. Riches, Miss Weber, Messrs. S. Lewis, S. T. Cohn, and Byron Brennan.

Per *Hamburg*, from Hongkong, for Bremen, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Anthony, Mr. and Mrs. G. Baur and children, Mrs. and Miss E. Becker, Mr. and Mrs. Benari and children, Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Bentam Brown, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Better and children, Mr. and Mrs. H. Betts and son, Mr. and Mrs. Birchenall and children, Mr. and Mrs. Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. Fr. O. Bloech, Mr. and Mrs. Bolchover and children, Mrs. Bowie, Mrs. Brandis and children, Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Buttery, Mrs. Campbell Brown, Mrs. J. D. Caerother, Mrs. Callsen and child, Mr. and Mrs. Collbran, Mr. and Mrs. Charavy and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. Coyle, Mrs. Darby and child, Mrs. Donnenberg and children, Mr. and Mrs. A. Durler and child, Mr. and Mrs. O. Eichholz, Mrs. Fenwick, Mrs. Feldmann and child, Mrs. Ferrier, Mr. and Mrs. Frachon, Mrs. J. Franchell and child, Mrs. E. Freitag, Mr. and Mrs. Th. Freudenberg, Mr. and Mrs. Frizell and child, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice W. Frye, Mrs. J. Gawthorne and child, Mr. and Mrs. K. B. te Gussinklo, Mrs. H. Handelman and child, Mr. and Mrs. G. Harling and daughter, Mrs. B. E. Hayes, Dr. and Mrs. Hill and child, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Holme, Mrs. D. Hubback and child, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, Mrs. Jmai, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Joseph and children, Mrs. Kingcome, Mrs. H. Lassen, Mr. and Mrs. Lategahn and children, Mr. and Mrs. Laefe and children, Dr. and Mrs. Lehmann, Mr. and Mrs. E. Legros and child, Dr. and Mrs. Lowry and children, Mrs. W. C. Lush, Mrs. Macdonald and child, Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald and children, Mrs. Merrilees, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Meyer and children, Mrs. C. Montague Ede and children, Mr. and Mrs. W. Noyes Morehouse, Mrs. W. A. Morling, Mr. and Mrs. de Mornay, Mr. and Mrs. Nass, Mr. and Mrs. Nock and children, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Dick and children, Mrs. W. Paulus and children, Mr. and Mrs. Perry and child, Dr. and Mrs. M. d. Platen and children, Mrs. Rynbende and child, Mrs. Alma Sandow, Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, Mr. and Mrs. A. Sharpe, Mrs. Sielcken and children, Consul and Mrs. Seaton, Mrs. W. E. Southcott, Mr. and Mrs. J. Travers Smith and children, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Thoms, Mrs. Truscott, Mr. and Mrs. A. Turner, Mrs. O. Voigt, Mr. and Mrs. P. Westendorff and child, Mr. and Mrs. A. Wiseman, Mrs. Ziegfeld and son, Mrs. T. A. V. de Zobel, Miss Zobel, Baron Amatos Ralli, Sir Alexander Baird, Rev. G. A. Bridle, Baron Kimon, Viscount de Monte Sao, Dr. Mueller and Mrs. Mueller-Schonan, Misses A. Blumenfeldt, Bourgiguon, Cameron, Alice Ford, Gorham, Melville, L. Munroe, M. Petersen, Pike, M. Robertson, Magda Rohde, Townsend, Veazey, Jettie van Vloten, Baird, and Barry, Lieut. V. Moor Allen, Messrs. Ed. Aitken, Ch. Albertson, Bell, H. L. Bell, J. R. Bell, J. Berkelbach v. d. Sprinkel, F. Bernick, Berwick, J. F. de Brauwere, Paul Brewitt, M. Busch, E. Butterfield, A. Carter, P. Cunliffe, Duverfer, C. C. Forster, K. Fotheringham, Gumsann, Georg, D. A. Giel, Rud. Goecke, J. Gossman, F. M. Govey, J. R. Gray, E. Hafen, N. Hafner, L. B. Hanneford, W. Hartmann, Hasche, M. A. Hanschild, L. Henveldop, Horne, H. Hugo, L. James, Jasui, Y. Kamei, Knowles, J. Knot, M. Krauss, Kroecher, J. J. Kuenzli, Hans R. Lutz, Mahlerwein, Marshall, Paul Ma, Mendas da Costa, Menado, J. E. Moltzer, Graf du Monceau, L. Moore, F. Nicolai, Oberweg, W. H. Purcell, Reyerd, J. L. Robertson, P. A. Roxas, W. Schmidt, G. M. Schurman, O. Sielcken, J. W. de Silva, H. A. Street, F. W. Styan, J. T. Smith, K. Takasu, L. Thompson, A. L. Tupker, P. L. E. Vyzelaar, J. Werner, Wreford, A. C. Young, and Wuelcker.

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